SAO PAULO, Brazil, Jan 14: Italy's Fiorentina are closing in on Corinthians' playmaker Vampeta, who has helped the Brazilians reach the final of the World Club Championship at the expense of Real Madrid. Brazilian media reported Thursday, reports AFP.

Corinthinas are prepared to let the 25-year-old move although Fiorentina would have to stump up around 20 million

Corinthians had been hoping the player, whose contract runs out in December, would negotiate a new deal through to 2002 on a monthly salary of 70,000 dollars, though they had refused to countenance a threemillion-dollar bonus.

Fiorentina's Argentine striker Gabriele Batistuta reportedly was angling for a similar deal after Corinthians expressed an interest in signing

Real Madrid are meanwhile chasing another Corinthians star - goalkeeper Dida, a Brazil-

ian international A move to Real for Dida could prompt the departure of German veteran and 1990 World Cup winner Bodo Ilgner.

His former club Cologne have denied Spanish reports that they are bidding to lure him back to Germany.

Real discipline Gutierrez, Carlos

MADRID, Jan 14: Real Madrid defender Roberto Carlos and midfielder Jose Maria Gutierrez were each fined five million pesetas (\$30.850) by the Spanish club on Thursday after incidents in a World Cup Championship match, reports Reuters.

The pair were among three Real players sent off in their teams 3-2 win over African champions Raja Casablanca in Sao Paulo on Monday.

Brazilian Roberto Carlos was dismissed for clattering into Bouchaib El Mourbarki and Gutierrez followed for kicking the same player as he lay on the ground.

Their behaviour did considerable damage to the image of this club and was contrary to accepted sporting behaviour.' Real Madrid said in a statement.

Real ended the match against Raja with only eight men after France defender Christian Karembeu was also sent off following his second vellow card.

The Spanish club said Karembeu had not received the same sanction as the other two but did not elaborate.

Nakata trains at Roma

ROME. Jan 14: Japan's Hidetoshi Nakata, who has just joined Roma from Perugia, completed his first training session with his new teammates at Trigoria near here early Friday, reports AFP.

Roma coach Fabio Capello said he had not decided however whether Nakata will start their Serie A match at Verona on Sunday.

Philippoussis stops Sampras

MELBOURNE, Jan 11: Australian Davis Cup hero Mark Philippoussis seized on his chances perfectly in two tiebreakers Friday, beating Pete Sampras and advancing to the final of the Colonial Classic. reports AP.

Deft passing shots were the key in both as Philippoussis won 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-5). On Salurday, he will meet top-ranked Andre Agassi in the final of the eight-man invitational, a warm-up for the Australian

He also could meet Agassi again in the fourth round of the open, which starts Monday. The draw was announced Friday.

Against Philippoussis, "it always comes down to a couple of points here and there. He managed to hit the right shot at the right time in the tiebreakers." said Sampras, who slipped from No. 1 to No 3 last year, partly because of a back injury that kept him out of the US

Philippoussis, who won the key victory in Australia's Davis Cup title triumph over France last month, served 15 aces and allowed only six points on service against Sampras.

McGrath's thorny (From page 9)

B Hyam run out Min Patel c Mizan b Shafiuddin T Dodemaide c Al-Shahriar b Nalmur N Killen not out Extras: (b-4, lb-6, nb-5) Total: (For 7 wkts in 78 overs declared)222 Did not bat: Ryan Sidebot-

tom and Mark Boocock. Fall of wickets: 1/11; 2/12; 3/28; 4/52; 5/67; 6/93; 7/208. OM R W Bowler: Monjurul 25 Shaffuddin 17 6 46 Mushfiq 5 22 3 46 Fahim

Shaheen 33 22 Naimur 0 18 Al-Shahriar BCB PRESIDENT'S ELE-VEN: First innings Azam batting Sajid b N Killeen Al-Shahriar c Nixon b N Killeen

Naimur batting Extras: (nb-2) Total: (For 2 wkts in 10 overs) To bat: Akram Khan, Miza-

nur Rahman, Mushfigur Rahman, Fahim Muntasir, Monjurul Islam, Shafiuddin Ahmed and Shaheen Ahmed. Fall of wickets: 1/5: 2/21.

Bowler: OMR N Killeen 5 2 R Sidebottom M Patel

Vampeta Valencia shown SAO PAULO, Brazil, Jan 14: 700th calling Romario Valencia shown

CHAMPIONSHIP 2000 plained. RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan 14; Vasco da Gama striker Romario will be after his 700th goal in a sparkling if controversial ca-

Championship final against Brazilian rivals Corinthians, reports AFP. "Officially I'm on 699 goals, including the one I got against Necaxa on Tuesday. I had the impression I'd scored a lot more than that," said Romario with typical ebullience. "I have never stopped to count them all, but it would be

FIFA CLUB WORLD

in the World Club final," he added. Romario said that some of the goals not included in the official count were those scored in friendlies playing for Barcelona and PSV Einddoven. the two clubs where he made his

great to get the 700th officially

reer in Friday's World Club

name on the world scene. "I remember there was one pre-season friendly with Barcelona when I scored 12 goals. They're not on the list. But I'd like to get one now in the final against Corinthians," Romario told reporters.

"I think it's a special gift I received. I could never have been a and I've hardly been out, per-

goalkeeper, and I wasn't born to defend. It's a secret talent which I keep on bettering," he ex-

At the age of 33 and just weeks after Flamengo sacked him for going to a nightclub after an important defeat, Romario, a World Cup winner with



ROMARIO

Brazil in 1994, is now on the verge of making his new side

the best in the world. "For me this has been like a World Cup. Since December 19 I have been concentrating on the event with the team in a hotel haps a couple of times, to see my kids. You can't put a price on this title. It will be worth it to have made some sacrifices."

Romario insisted. Along with Real Madrid's injured star Nicolas Anelka the veteran co-leads the goalscoring lists with three goals in three matches from the group phase - a handsome return after Vasco took a calculated risk in signing up the headstrong fig-

"There's always a chance I'll end up the top scorer in any tournament I'm playing in. And now Anelka has got injured and gone back to Spain," Romario noted as he closes in on individual as well as team glory.

Equally controversial teammate Edmundo could beat him to the scorers' title if he nets twice on Friday at the Maracana - but Romario says he wouldn't mind all that much - even he misses his 700 target in the process.

"I'd really like to be world champion. If Vasco beat Corinthians with two goals from Edmundo we'd still win the title and I'd be just as pleased.

"But it won't be easy. They have players such as Rincon. Edilson and Marcelinho. They have been together for two years and know each other well," Ro-



THEIR DAY IS MADE: Tiny tots from the soccer school of Rochina are ecstatic after getting the chance to have photographs with Real Madrid superstars Roberto Carlos (C) and Fernando Hierro at Real's team hotel in Rio de Janeiro on January 14. - AFP photo

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP BRIEFS



RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan 14(AFP): Colombia's Oscar Ruiz Acosta will referee Friday's inaugural FIFA World Club Championship Final between Brazilian clubs Corinthians and Vasco da Gama, FIFA announced on Thursday

Dutchman Dick Jol will ' 'ke charge of the third-place r off between Spain's Real Maura

and Necaxa of Mexico. That match will commence at 19:00 GMT while the Vasco-Corinthians clash begins at 23:00 GMT with both games played at Rio's Maracana Sta-

> MIRANDA MAY HAVE TO EAT HIS WORDS

RIO DE JANEIRO: Vasco da Gama president Eurico Miranda could live to regret an outburst at his club's opponents Corinthians in Friday's inaugural World Club Championship Final

Miranda, a Rio de Janeiro deputy as well as club chairman, said earlier in the tournament that he hoped Sao Paulo-based Corinthians would reach the final against Riobased Vasco, saying: "It will be very easy for us (against

Corinthians)." That prompted a reply from top Corinthians player Marcelinho Carioca, who warned: "Miranda is competent but he talks a lot of rubbish. He

should not say such things before winning. JOAO CARLOS OUT

OF FINAL RIO DE JANEIRO: Key

Corinthians defender Joao Carlos has resigned himself to missing Friday's inaugural

World Club Championship Final with Vasco da Gama through injury.

Joao Carlos, who played for Brazil in the Copa America, strained a muscle in his left leg against Al Nassr and will be replaced by Adilson against Vasco da Gama.

Better news comes for Corinthians with the news that Ricardinho will be fit to play at the final at Rio's Maracana

Stadium. VASCO FEAR PENALTY

KING DIDA RIO DE JANEIRO: Corinthians have a secret weapon in goalkeeper Dida should the inaugural World Club Champi-

onship Final with Vasco da Gama go to a penalty shoot-out. Since the beginning of 1999 Dida has made eight penalty saves including three for the Brazil national team, two during their march to Copa Amer-

ica glory last summer. Dida, who has proved a worthy successor in the national team to 1994 World Cup lero Claudio Taffarel, also ved an 83rd-minute penalty m Frenchman Nicolas

A. elka in Corinthians' Group A 2-2 draw with Real Madrid. That save enabled his side to eventually progress at Real's

expense. POLICE FIRE TEARGAS AT FANS AMID TICKET CHAOS

RIO DE JANEIRO: Rio de Janeiro police fired teargas on Thursday at fans scrambling to buy tickets for Friday's inaugural World Club Championship Final between Rio's own Vasco da Gama and another Brazilian outfit Corinthians, who are

based in Sao Paulo.

Tickets are at a premium for the all-Brazilian final with an estimated 26,000 Corinthians fans expected to travel from Sao Paulo to attend the match in Rio's legendary Maracana

arena. Police estimate that there were 30,000 fans in the queue for tickets when the violence broke out but the incidents were played down by Brazilian football federation (CFB) president Ricardo Texeira, who described the confusion as "natural"

"In all such sporting encounters there is a fack of tickets.' said the unfazed Texeira.

RINCON PROMISES

CORINTHIANS CUP BOGOTA: Colombian playmaker Freddy Rincon, who will captain his Brazilian club side Corinthians in Friday's World Club Championship Final with Vasco da Gama, has vowed that his team will win the inaugural event despite playing at the Maracana in Vasco's home city

of Rio de Janeiro. "They (Vasco) may have Romario, but we also have good players and this is why we got to the final and won the Brazilian Championship last year," Rincon told Colombian radio station Caracol de Bogota.

Maverick strikers Romario and Edmundo are Vasco's star players but Corinthians have several high quality stars of their own like Vampeta, Luizao, Marcelinho, Edilson and especially Rincon, adored in his homeland and hailed in Brazil as the key player in his club's run to the final

Rincon said: "The final will provide very good football and with the help of God we will win the title.'

the door BARCELONA, Jan 14: Holders Valencia crashed out of the Spanish Cup at the second round stage on Wednesday, a 2-0 victory over Second Division Osasuna only serving to send them down 3-2 on aggregate, reports Reuters.

Hector Cuper's side made the start they wanted as Gaizka Mendieta won the converted a penalty as early as the seventh minute.

They were kept at bay until the second half by some spirited Osasuna defending before Francisco Farinos fired in after 55 minutes to give them renewed hope.

flight sides eliminated by lower division opposition as Real Betis, Real Mallorca and Alaves suffered similar fates. Mallorca, going strong in the

Valencia were one of four top

UEFA Cup, found third division Ourense a different proposition as they went down 2-1 at home on the night, 4-3 on aggregate.

Alaves also went out to a

third division side, a 2-1 win at home to Real Union sending them out on the away goals rule after their 1-0 defeat in the first

Real Betis were beaten 1-0 at home by second division Merida to complete a 2-0 aggregate defeat

Barcelona looked set to have similar problems against third division Almeria before late goals from Xavi Hernandez and Rivaldo sent them into the third round.

In all first division battles, Rayo Vallecano held out for a goalless draw and a 1-0 aggregate win over Athletic Bilbao. Real Zaragoza beat Racing Satander 4-1 (6-2), while Deportivo Coruna edged out Malaga on the away goals rule.

Atletico Madrid, Celta Viego and Ovideo also made it through from the top flight, holding off second division sides Las Palmas, Sporting Gijon and Logrones respectively.

Compostela beat Tenerife 2-1 for a 4-2 aggregate win in an all-second division tie, while Eibar and Lleida fought out an epic battle. Lleida eventually winning through on away goals after the tie finished goalless after 90 minutes and 1-1 after extra time.

Villarreal booked their place on Tuesday with a 1-0 win over Barakaldo, while Real Madrid - given a bye to enable them to take part in the World Cup Championship — will complete the last 16 line-up.

Italian Cup qtrs.1st leg

Juve draw first blood

TURIN, Italy, Jan 14: Juventus defeated Serie A rivals Lazio 3-2 in an entertaining encounter here on Thursday in a first leg quarter-final match in the Italian Cup but will be rueing the laxness that allowed the Rome outfit to pull back two second-half goals, reports AFP.

But only 8,000 fans turned up at the Stadio delle Alpi for a game that deserved a bigger audience. France's World Cup winning

playmaker Zinedine Zidane opened the scoring for the Bianconeri after just 12 minutes. curling in a superb freekick. By half-time the match

looked all over bar the shout-First Juve's Yugoslav striker

Darko Kovacevic had his shot deflected in by team-mate Antonio Conte and then after 38 minutes Kovacevic himself got in on the act when he headed home from a cross by Filippo Inzaghi. But after the break Lazio

were a different side with their Yugoslav substitute Dejan Stankovic inspiring a comeback.

After 51 minutes former Juve hero Fabrizio Ravanelli converted a penalty, his second goal in two matches, after Alessandro Birindelli was penalised for a foul in the penalty

Ten minutes from the end it was Roberto Mancini who reduced arrears to a single goal when he beat onrushing Dutch goalkeeper Edwin Van der Sar to the ball therefore keeping the game very much in the balance for the second leg in Rome.

EUROPEAN SOCCER SCENE

PARIS, Jan 14: Reigning Spanish champions Barcelona face a tough trip Sunday as they travel to Real Zaragoza looking to close a four-point gap on leaders Deportivo La Coruna in the Primera Liga match of the weekend, reports AFP.

In Italy Lazio and Juventus will duel for the title albeit a meaningless one - that of winter champions - while the pick of the weekend fixtures in France sees champions Bordeaux host Paris St Germain. PRIMERA LIGA

In Spain Barca face secondplaced Zaragoza and must do without Dutch international forward Patrick Kluivert. banned for five matches.

Barca made a rip-roaring start to the season but have blown hot and cold since.

Over the past month Barca, chasing a third successive title. have cut the gap on leaders Deportivo La Coruna from nine to four points.

But the Catalan giants have been disappointing away from home and until their win at Celta Vigo last weekend had gone three months without full points on their travels since winning at Valladolid.

Ten points from their last four outings have put Barca back in the hunt after a poor run which brought four straight defeats.

Since then, however, both Barca - who won in Vigo last week - and Zaragoza have been able to close in on Primera Liga leaders Deportivo La Coruna as "Superdepor", who have failed to win any of their last three matches in their quest for a first ever title.

Zaragoza have not only lost at home they also have the meanest defence in the league with just 20 goals conceded.

Barca meanwhile have the most potent attack with 41 goals in 19 games but Zaragoza were on fire up front in their Spanish cup tie in midweek. winning 4-1 at Santander.

Deportivo play at Alaves while Rayo Vallecano and Atletico Madrid get the weekend programme under way Saturday as they meet in a Madrid derby neighbours Real, returning at the weekend from their World Club Championship excursion to Brazil, host Real Mallorca on Monday.

Primera Liga weekend fix-Saturday: Rayo Vallecano v

Atletico Madrid Sunday: Alaves v Deportivo La Coruna. Real Betis v Athletic Bilbao, Celta Vigo v Real Oviedo, Espanyol v Malaga, Racing Santander v Valencia, Real Zaragoza v Barcelona, Real

Sociedad v Seville, Real Valladolid v Numancia Monday: Real Madrid v Real Mallorca

SERIE A In Italy Lazio and Juventus will kick-off on Sunday with one of them destined to win an

unofficial league title by the end of the day.

Lazio defend a one-point lead over Juventus against Reggina and a victory would see them crowned Italy's 'winter champions.

The distinction goes to the team who are top of Serie A at the halfway stage of the season. It may only be a 'virtual' trophy but nine of the last 11 winter champions have gone on to win the real thing. Lazio lost to Juventus in

their Italian Cup quarter-final on Thursday night, but coming back from 3-0 down to 3-2 in Turin was no easy feat.

And they shouldn't need much fighting spirit against Reggina, who are just two points above the relegation zone.

Juventus host a Perugia side who have conceded eight goals and scored none in their two games since the New Year, perhaps disturbed by the imminent departure to Roma of Japanese ace Hidetoshi Nakata.

The Turin club are unbeaten at home this season and have by far the best defensive record in Serie A. conceding eight goals in 16 matches. Parma, who have a mathe-

matical but totally unrealistic chance of going top. visit Lecce. The southerners must muzzle Parma's Argentinian striker

marksman with a dozen goals AS Roma must pick themselves up after an embarrassing 1-0 Cup defeat at home to bottom club Cagliari when they

Hernan Crespo. the Serie A's top

take on Verona. Playmaker Francesco Totti missed a penalty on Wednesday. but striker Vincenzo Montella bids to continue his free-scor-

ing form. Inter and AC Milan have quite different tasks with Marcello Lippi's men hosting Cagliari, knowing victory is a

However, their 50-million dollar centre-forward Christian Vieri is suspended.

AC Milan have a much trick ier game away to Udinese, the club where Milan coach Alberto Zaccheroni and striker Oliver Bierhoff were both heroes until they moved west in 1998. Bierhoff has scored eight

times this season, but 10-goal

Ukrainian Andriy Shevche-

nko, who equalised twice

against Inter on Wednesday, is on even better form. Serie A weekend fixtures (1400 GMT kick-off unless

stated): Saturday: Venezia v Fiorentina, Bologna v Bari (1930);Sunday: Inter Milan v

Cagliari. Juventus v Perugia.

Lecce v Parma. Piacenza v

Torino, Reggina v Lazio, AS

Roma v Verona, Udinese v AC Milan (1930) FRENCH FIRST DIVISION Bordeaux host PSG in the top clash of the French champi-

onship this weekend with two

players returning to successful

stamping grounds. PSG playmaker Ali Benarbia, the inspiration behind Bordeaux' league title last season will line-up for his 200th league match while striker Christophe Dugarry, a member of the Bordeaux side that went all the way to the 1996 UEFA Cup Final from the Intertoto Cup, will make his home league 'debut' on his return to Bordeaux following a move from

Marseille. Both sides desperately need a win to keep their hopes of the title alive with Bordeaux 15 points off leaders Monaco following a 2-1 defeat by Metz on Tuesday while PSG are eight points adrift.

Benarbia, attempting to win his third French championship with a different club after also taking the crown with Monaco in 1997, can expect a warm welcome from Girondins supporters after he left within days of their last minute title success ironically a 3-2 win over PSG sealing their crown and robbing Marseille of the championship.

Dugarry, whose constant inclusion in the French squad has surprised many and has been laid down to the fact he is playmaker Zinedine Zidane's best friend and roommate, can expect a warm reception from his home town fans.

Monaco, in devastating form on Wednesday thrashing Troyes 4-1 with a double by Argentinian ace Marcelo Gallardo, should have little trouble in safeguarding their unbeaten home record as they host Rennes on Saturday,

The leaders will be missing injured Mexican central defender Rafael Marquez but he will be replaced by the reliable Philippe Christanval.

Even if Monaco were to slip up Saturday Lyon will be hard pressed to take advantage as they face another difficult away trip to fourth placed Auxerre.

Struggling Marseille, 18 points adrift of Monaco and 10 off a Champions League place. host bottom placed Montpellier on Sunday with their visitors also having put an end to a winless streak with a 3-0 win over Nantes - their first win since September 19. A victory for Montpellier.

who have just signed Argentinian midfielder Mariano Heron on loan, would ensure that 1998 champions Lens get sucked in even further into the relegation scrap as they face a ard task away at surprise packages Sedan, who are currently fifth. French fixtures for Jan 15-23

French weekend fixtures: Saturday: AJ Auxerre v Olympique Lyon, Nancy v Bastia, Sedan v Racing Lens, Le Havre v St Etienne, Racing Strasbourg v Metz, Monaco v Stade Rennes, Nantes v Troyes, Sunday: Olympique Mar-

seille v Montpellier. Girondins

Bordeaux v Paris St Germain

Premiership

Gunners, Sunderland look to climb



LONDON, Jan 14: While Manchester United bask in the Rio sunshine after failing to clinch a third-place playoff spot in the inaugural World

Club Championship in Brazil, Premiership rivals Arsenal and Sunderland will be looking to gain ground on leaders Leeds on Saturday, reports AFP. David O'Leary's side, who in their last two league games suf-

fered consecutive defeats against Arsenal and Aston Villa respectively, also have the day off as they were due to meet United at Elland Road this weekend. Leeds still top the table on 44

points, one ahead of Manchester United, although Alex Ferguson's side do have two games in hand. Arsenal, lying third on 40 points, therefore have the opportunity to open up a fivepoint gap on Sunderland, who are fourth on 38, and after Ar-

Gunners will start as favourites. Peter Reid's men were ignominiously dumped out of the FA Cup last Saturday by Division One side Tranmere Rovers and the Wearsiders will be desperate

36 #1 player DOWN

39 Enthusiast

Teapot"

48 Detergent

follower

50 Through-

51 Cook-

52 Scurvy

54 Wish

er's desire

otherwise

brand

49 Tel

42 "- Little

1 Leeway

Python"

member

negative

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Carey's

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Foster

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burger

4 Ham-

5 Run

6 Lincoln

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9 Heard

7 Threw out

out history Vigoda

book verb 8 Noshed

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53 Audition- 10 Blue-

CROSSWORD

sene Wenger's side made light of

Leeds' visit a fortnight ago by

comfortably winning 2-0, the

to put their title challenge back on track after taking just one point from the last six. Fifth-placed Liverpool will

be hoping they can bounce back

from their FA Cup defeat at home to Blackburn on Monday when they take on strugglers Watford at Vicarage Road. Chelsea, in sixth place, face Martin O'Neill's Leicester who will be buoyant after beating

Fulham on Wednesday in the

League Cup quarter final, eventually winning on penalties after drawing 3-3 after extra time. The London club, however, will also be brimming with confidence after beating Tottenham in midweek, extending their unbeaten league run to five

New signing George Weah promised Chelsea that things can only get better even after his fairy-tale winner against Tottenham three minutes from the end at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday.

Aston Villa will revisit Upton Park to face a West Ham side who will still be smarting from their League Cup quarter-

final defeat at the hands of John Gregory's men on Tuesday night. At the beginning of December letters were flooding into

chairman Doug Ellis' office urg-

ing him to part company with Gregory after the team had slumped to 13th place in the Premiership with just three points from eight games. Since then. Villa have em-

barked on a run of five wins and

a draw, lifted themselves back into mid-table, and even secured a victory at leaders Leeds. At the bottom of the table Sheffield Wednesday and Bradford lock horns in a game the hosts can ill afford to lose.

side will leave them 11 points behind the Premiership newcomers, making safety from the drop an almost insurmountable Manager Danny Wilson is hopeful striker Andy Booth will

be fit for Saturday whilst the flu

Defeat for the Hillsborough

bug that swept through the camp last week appears to have passed. Premiership weekend matches (kick-off 1500GMT un-

less stated): Saturday: Arsenal v Sunderland, Chelsea v Leicester City. Coventry City v Wimbledon. Everton v Tottenham Hotspur Middlesbrough v Derby County, Sheffield Wednesday v Bradford City, Watford v Liverpool, West

Ham United v Aston Villa Sunday: Newcastle United v Southampton (k/o 1600)

All-Aussie men's fin

Mauresmo exacts revenge



final, reports AP.

avenged last year's Australian Open final loss to Martina Hingis by crushing the World No. 1 in straight sets to win Friday's Adidas International semi-

The 20-year-old Frenchwoman unleashed a string of blistering backhands to defeat Hingis 7-5, 6-3 and set up a final against either defending titlist Lindsay Davenport or eighthseeded Anna Kournikova, who meet in the other semi-final later Friday. Hingis held a 5-3 lead and

was serving at 30-0 in the first set before Maure mo struck back, reeling off si. successive wining games to take the first set and open a 2-0 break in the second. The sixth-seeded Mauresmo won in emphatic style, marking

her second triumph over Hingis

with an ace on her first match

point. "I had my chances at 5-3 and 30-love ... I just didn't do enough with them," said Hingis, winner of the last three Australian reportedly described Open championships. "When I had the chances I the decid

SYDNEY, Jan 14: would miss easy shots, which I Amelie Mauresmo don't normally do. I'll have to be bet r next week." M esmo had a 1-5 winloss ord against Hingis go-

ing into the semis at Sydney's

new Olympic venue but gal ed a

significant confidence boo .. go-

ing into next week's Aust dian Open at Melbourne Park. She said she didn't know and she didn't want to know ho she was playing in the tralian Open because she wanted to concentrate on Sat-

asked, however, if

was still one of the

es, she said: "Yes she is

.hem — I'm probably one

urday inal.

like my game."

Hing

of the lalso." uresmo rated Fri y's win nong her best, sayin ner back and was her weapon played some reat .. It's one of the best

ones. always very good win-ning a nst the World o. 1,"

she san "I think sh . Jesn't

Their revious (n down under w the Austr an Open final last January, w'n Hingis resmo as "half a man" in th up to



celebrate after scoring against Lazio in their Italian Cup encounter on January 13. Teammate Edgar Davids is - AFP photo following him.



Guadala-

jara

34 Spot

55 Low poker 20 Elementary level 36 Loom 22 Tea party 19 Send out 56 French airport Solution time: 28 mins. 41 Disappear 43 Drew TAGS HILLIS RRY BOON BY CAMPAUGN 45 Composer 46 Jodie 47 Joel or

Yesterday's answer

By Eugene Sheffer 24 Chris O'Donnell 25 Beatnik's 3 Nuremberg 26 Guinness creation 29 30 31 25 | 26 | 27 27 Morse morsel 29 Lavatory degrees WSW 31 Rimsky-Korsakov's "Le Coq -" 11 Mercedes- 35 Miscellaneous CRYPTOQUIP JYAKQ IXX QKZ ALIWHU operator 39 Tolerate 40 Pakistan's ELTPYSAKIJ BIXITZ tongue

HWYSP OV UZTLWY-QZI? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I REALLY DIDN'T ENJOY BEING A DRILL PRESS OPERATOR. IT'S A BORING JOB.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Q equals T

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 49 Mountain give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.