Foulplay?

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 20: Brazilian footballers Airton Oliveira and Jose Clayton, who played for Belgium and Tunisia in the 1998 World Cup, used falsified documents to gain citizenship of both countries, the Brazilian newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo claimed Sunday, reports AFP.

The newspaper claimed that both players, who were born and began to play soccer in the city of Sao Luis, capital of the northern state of Maranhao. lied about their ages to play for their respective countries.

It said that investigations carried out by them based on school records found that Oliveria was in fact 34 years old and not 30 and Clayton was 28 and not 25.

Olivera, at the moment playing in the Italian Serie A side Cagliari, has denied lying about his age and falsifying documents and blamed the error on school authorities. "There is no problem with

my age. We are going to speak of soccer, that is what is of interest. They are inventing that story to harm me," Oliveira told Folha de Sao Paulo.

Clayton, however, admitted taking three years off his age. but said that it was without the knowlege of the Tunisian Football Federation.

"If they knew they would not have selected me for the World Cup," he said. "I didn't kill anyone. I only did it to earn a liv-

Carlos Alberto Ferreira president of Maranhao Football Federation where both began their soccer career refused to produce any papers relating to both players and said he was not responsible for documents produced by Oliveira and Clayton to gain naturalization.

Last year's Brazilian championship was rocked by a similar scandal of fielding overage players, when it was found that Sao Paulo striker Sandro Hiroshi had two birth dates.

## 'Politics should not mix with sport'

OSAKA, Japan, Mar 20: Argentina's field hockey coach on Sunday hit out at South Africa's decision to withdraw from the Olympic Games even though his team will benefit the most from their absence, reports AFP. "Politics should not mix

with sport," Alejandro Verga said after Argentina defeated Japan 1-0 to take the seventh place in the Olympic qualifying tournament here. "We have a chance to go to

Sydney because of the bad things that are happening in the world of sport." The National Olympic!

Committee of South Africa

(NOCSA) decided last month against fielding the men's hockey team which qualified for the Olympics as the continental champions from Africa. NOCSA spokesman Chris,

Day said in Johannesburg the committee was not convinced the Olympic squad would finish in the top eight and it had not met a rule that the "demographics of the nation should be represented in the team." All but seven of the men's

national squad of 30 are white, he said.

The women's team also did not meet the racial criteria, but NOCSA was sure it would finish in the top eight and had been al-

lowed to attend the Games, Day Verga told reporters he was unhappy that Argentina will

benefit from the misfortune of others. "If I were a South African

player I would have gone absolutely crazy," he said. "From the sports point of

view, we have not qualified since we finished seventh and only the first six were to go to Sydney. "It's a strange feeling really.

My parents, coaches and friends have always told no that politics should not mix with sports." Intentional Hockey Federa-

tion (FIH) sources here said the world body was making behind the scenes efforts to get NOCSA to change it's mind and allow the team to go to Sydney.

The FIH said it would await the outcome of discussions between the South African sports authorities and national hockey officials before deciding the future course of action.

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Monaco's Italian striker Marco Simone (C) being congratulated by teammates on scoring against Lyon in their French Cup quarterfinal at Lyon on March 19. - Internet photo

## America finish first



United States swimmers won three gold medals. one silver and six bronze on the final day of the

World Short-Course Swimming Championships here Sunday to easily finish the team leader in the final major swimming tournament before the Sydney Olympic Games in September, reports AFP.

The Americans gathered a total of 25 medals in the four days of competition, including nine gold medals, in beating out tough European competitors Sweden, Germany and Great Britain, all of whom finished with double figure total medals. The U.S. accumulated 774 to-

tal points (380 for the men and 394 for the women), outdistancing second-placed Great Britain which ended with 614 points followed by Germany (514). Russia (422), Australia (408), China (382.5), Sweden (333) and Italy (196).

In the final day of the championships three world records were broken, adding to the other 12 set in the previous

Neil Walker, who was named the top male swimmer in the competition by world governing body FINA, set one of the records winning the men's 100m backstroke in 50.75sec, bettering the previous mark set by Lenny Krayzelburg of the United States of 51.28 accomplished in Berlin on February 5.

"Now I hope I can also break a record in Sydney. I owe this success to hard work and sacrifices." Walker said after the

Walker took part in the U.S.'s winning 4x100m relay medley team which finished the event in 3min 30.03sec. The other members of the squad

were Krayzelburg, Jarrod Marrs and Scott Tucker. "With the same team members I am absolutely certain that we can break world records

in Australia," Walker said. He was also second behind Great Britain's Mark Foster in the 50m butterfly event. Foster won the event in 23.30sec.

ahead of Walker's 23.46. "Everything turned out great for me in this championships. The only problem is that I

tween the finals. From now on I will dedicate myself to preparing for the Olympic Games," Foster said.

Walker amassed an incredible 26 points in the championships with four world records en route to three golds and a silver medal in individual events, 10 points clear of triple world record breaker Lars Frolander of Sweden who also set a world record Sunday with a 23.19sec time in the men's 50m butterfly preliminary race.

"It was proved for once more that athletes can be very fast in this pool. I am giving a great performance here in Athens, which is something I didn't expect myself, before coming to Greece and that also stands for the whole team of Sweden. I hope we get as prepared as we can for the Sydney Olympic Games," Frolander said after the world record performance.

Frolander captured the 100m freestyle event Sunday with a 46.80sec clocking ahead of teammate Stefan Nystrand who was second in 47.73. "I will leave with the best

memories from Athens, although I expected to break the world record in this race. It doesn't matter; I will try hard to achieve this in the Sydney Olympic Games," Frolander

Double breaststroke gold medallist Roman Sloudnov of Russia, who set the other world record Sunday with a 2min07.59sec timing in the men's 200m breaststroke finals to win the gold medal, finished third in the men's individual team points with 14. He had also set a world record Friday in the 100m breaststroke.

The Americans were also aided in their dominance by the championships' outstanding female swimmer, Jenny Thompson, who finished the competition with two gold medals, a silver and one world record giving her 15 points, one ahead of freestyle sensation Therese Alshammar of Sweden.

Thompson on Sunday won the 100m butterfly event with a 57.67sec performance, in an event which she set a world record the previous day at 56.56.

Alshammar broke the world records in the 50 and 100m events and on Sunday was a couldn't rest enough, because member of the winning there was only little time be- Swedish 4x100 relay medley

team which clocked in 3:59.53 Other members of the Swedish team were Emma Igelstrom, Johanna Sjoberg and Anna-Karin Kammerling.

In third place among the outstanding individual women in the championships was Yana Klochkova of the Ukraine with 13 points gained from gold medals in the 200 and 400m individual medleys and a silver in the 400m freestyle.

Germany picked up two gold medals Sunday, with Antje Buschschulte taking the 200m backstroke for women in a 2min 07.29 performance and Jorg Hoffmann captured the 1.500m men's freestyle in 14min 47.57sec

Other gold medal winners for the final day of the competition came from South African Sarah Poewe who won the 100m breaststroke for women in 1min 06.21sec, Yu Yang of China who won the 200m freestyle for women in 1min 56.06sec, Jani Sievinen of Finland who garnered first place in the 200m medley for men in 1min 56.27sec and Yana Klochkova of the Ukraine who topped the field in the 200m medley for women in 2min 08.97sec.

"I always paint my nails black for good luck and I believe that this time they really brought me good luck," Poewe said. "The time as well as the gold medal is the perfect finale for me in this championships." MEDAL TABLE

Medal table following the final day of the World Short-Course Swimming Championships on Sunday (gold, silver, bronze, total):

Sweden Germany G Britain S Africa Ukraine China Russia Slovakia Australia Croatia Denmark Hungary Canada Poland Italy Cuba Israel Switzerland Slovenia Turkey Belarus	975422221111100000000	7364422021000421100000	91250325120001121111111111111111111111111	25 11 13 13 6 7 6 7 4 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
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# Teixeira attacks Pele again



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March 20: The president of the tion (CBF) Ricardo "not stopped criticising the

fired another broadside Sunday at the legendary Pele on the latter's perceived lack of support for Brazil's 2006 World Cup bid, reports AFP. Only 10 days ago Teixeira,

who has long had a difficult re-

lationship with Pele, claimed cise. But he does not have the the former World Cup winner right to say that Brazil is not in would be to blame if Brazil are a position to host a World Cup. Brazilian Foot- not selected to host the 2006 Teixeira stormed. ball Confedera- tournament and said he had Teixeira echoed earlier criti-

cism by former Brazil star Zico. who is acting as a sports amcandidature of his own counbassador for the country's 2006 bid, that Pele had appeared In an interview with daily more ready to come out with a sports paper Lance, Teixeira positive assessment of the said that Pele "is very much chances of England and also prejudicing the (Brazilian) South Africa, who are rival candidacy, working against it.

"I give him the right to criti-"To say we are not in a position to organise a World Cup when World Cup matches have been played in a stadium such as Nantes (at France 98) can only be a joke," stormed Teixeira, who put his country's chance of winning the race at

"about 35 percent". "I believe we will have an even better chance when we get to July 5 (when FIFA are ex-pected to make their choice be-ever performance by an amatween Brazil, England, Germany, Morocco and South Africa). We will bring the Cup to Brazil," Teixeira insisted. "All the proposed cities (in the Brazilian bid) have modern

airports, modern hotels. We have a privatised foreignowned telecommunicacions network. We have been four times world champions and have headed the FIFA world rankings since 1993," he pointed out.

WBC belt goes to De la Hoya MEXICO CITY, Mar 20: Oscar

de la Hoya was named the World Boxing Council welterweight champion here Sunday when Puerto Rico's Felix Trinidad renounced the crown, reports Trinidad did so because he

has claimed the World Boxing Association super welterweight title, beating David Reid earlier this month in his debut at the higher weight class.

## into semis

PARIS, March 20: Champions-in-waiting Monaco stayed on course for a French League and Cup double with a 3-1 win away to Lyon in the Cup quarter-finals on Sunday, reports

Monaco, who hold a 13point lead over Lyon with six rounds remaining in the league, bounced back from conceding an early goal against their rivals to score a deserved victory and joined outgoing champions Bordeaux, Cup holders Nantes and fourth division Calais in seeded Swede, who looked flat the third set. He was serving the final four.

An extra-time goal for Antoine Sibierski saw Nantes beat Rennes 2-1 in the other quarterfinal played on Sunday.

Pierre Laigle gave Lyon the lead after 35 minutes with a superb left-footed volley from the edge of the penalty area after good lead-up work by Vikash Dhorasoo, but Monaco gradually clawed their way back into contention.

Dado Prso scored the equaliser with a header when left unmarked in the penalty area in the 58th minute from a Ludovic Giuly cross and former Italian international striker Marco Simone hammered home the match-decider with 12 minutes remaining.

Lyon's misery was completed when Florent Laville was sent off with three minutes remaining for a foul on Marcelo Gallardo and Giuly made it 3-1 in the final minute.

Nantes, the Cup holders, seemed to be coasting to victory when Nestor Fabbri gave them a 40th-minute lead against Rennes, heading home a corner from Frederic Da Rocha.

But Brittany outfit Rennes squared the match through Christophe Le Roux with 11 minutes remaining after good work from Elhadji Diouf.

Nantes goalkeeper Mickael Landreau, tipped by some to fill one of the goalkeeping berths in Roger Lemerre's France squad for Euro 2000, distinguished himself on more than one occasion for the "Canaries".

But Sibierski popped up with a superbly-taken winner with three minutes of extra-time remaining, avoiding a penalty shoot-out by beating keeper Christophe Revault.

### Hingis still number 1

MIAMI, Florida, Mar 20: Swiss teen Martina Hingis remained number one in the WTA rankings released here Monday, even after her fifth consecutive loss to second-ranked Lindsay Davenport, reports The tall American cut her

deficit to Hingis from 373 points to 191 points after beating her top-ranked rival 'n Saturday's Tennis Masters ceries final at Indian Wells, Califor-Davenport's win streak over

Hingis also includes triumphs at the Australian Open and WTA Championships finals. Both move on to another two-week Masters Series event

in Miami and Davenport could overtake Hingis by the time the next rankings appear in April. France's Mary Pierce made the biggest top-10 jump, from

sixth to fourth, switching ranking spots with US Open champion Serena Williams. LATEST RANKINGS

#### Points Player 6005 Hingis 5814 Davenport V Williams 2643 Pierce 2549 **Fauziat** S Williams 2061 Conchita 2015 Halard-Decugis 1986 1919 Kournikova Sanchez-Vicario Schett 1731 1716 Testud 1576 Capriati Mauresmo 1444 Huber 1333 Likhotseva 1327 Van Roost Sugiyama 1271 Coetzer

## The week belongs to Calais

PARIS, March 20 (AFP): It was a weekend that saw Juventus stride towards a 26th Italian title, Barcelona close the gap on Spanish league leaders Deportivo La Coruna to two points and Bayern Munich stay ahead - albeit on goal difference - of rampant Bayer Leverkusen in Germany

But for footballing romantics the feat of the weekend belonged to French fourth division side Calais who by reaching the semi-finals of the teur club in the competition.

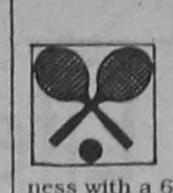
Calais, forced to play at Lens because their stadium could not accommodate such a high-profile match, saw off First Division Strasbourg 2-1 to join some illustrious company in the semi-finals. The other three sides left in

the hat are outgoing French champions Bordeaux, Cup holders Nantes and France's champions-in-waiting Monaco who are still on course for the double. The draw is made next weekend. The Calais players are

household names only in their own homes but their Spanish coach Ladislas Lozano is enjoying, in Andy Warhol's famous phrase, his 15 minutes of fame although he could not stop the tears at the final whistle.

"My first thought is for my mother and father. This is the most joyous moment of my life. Thanks mum, thanks dad, were the first words that came to the lips of the lacrimose coach as the match ended.

# Monaco breeze Cup Monaco breeze Corretja clinches title



emergence after a year battling ill ness with a 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 victory over Thomas Enqvist Sunday in the final of 2000's first

reports AFP. The unseeded Spaniard, who he netted a backhand volley. finished 1999 ranked 26th after rising to third at the end of a the third set, he was not in the stellar 1998, took exactly two match anymore," Corretja said. hours to overcome the 10th- "He was not mentally focused in

INDIAN WELLS, ble fault again," Corretja said. "I California, Mar was like, 'Just double fault. 20: Alex Corretja Don't make me play again. signaled his re- Please just leave me alone'.' Corretja broke early in each

game of the first and in the first game of the second. Enqvist grabbed the early Tennis Masters Series event, break in the second game of the third, but gave it right back as

of the first two sets, in the third

"Even when he broke me in



Alex Corretja of Spain shows his approval after winning the Indian Wells tennis tournament on March 19. -AFP photo

victory over 1999 champion Mark Philippoussis on Saturday evening.

Enqvist, who needed seven match points to subdue Philippoussis on Saturday, committed 51 unforced errors, finally giving up the match with a double fault on Corretja's second match point.

Corretja, who had to win six matches in seven days to claim the title in the 2.95 million-dollar event, admitted that as Enqvist served to save the match, he was hoping for such

"I was praying to him to dou-

knew some double faults would

around the baseline as I usually do," said Enqvist, whose left leg was sore in the wake of the Philippoussis match. "I was not moving well. That's part of the game. I don't want to take anything away from him. He deserved to win. Alex had tough matches also this week."

Corretja upset two-time US Open champion Pat Rafter in the second round and battled back from a 0-4 deficit in the first set against Fabrice Santoro in the third.

He went into the match prepared for a long one, but when he saved Enqvist's only break point against him in the second set with a superb backhand down the line, he began to sense he could take the Swede in

straight sets. Corretja earned the decisive break in the fifth game of the third set. Enqvist saved two break points in that game -- despite three double faults as he sought to stay out of the tiring rallies -- before netting a fore-

Corretja, the first Spaniard to win here since Jose Higueras in 1983, said the victory was special not only because of his struggles last year, but also because it confirmed that he and his compatriots aren't limited to claycourt success.

"It's always special to win on hardcourts," he said. "We're claycourt specialists. Growing up in Barcelona we play always on clay. When we show we can win on hardcourts they have more respect for us."

It was Corretja's first victory since he won the ATP Tour V, "Id Championships at the end or 1998.

That year he also reached his first Grand Slam final, at the French Open, winning a total of five titles in seven finals.

But the hangover from so many matches, and the increased demands on his time by sponsors and media, cost him in 1999 as he battled debilitating fatigue first thought to be caused by a virus.

In the end, Corretja said, what he needed most was rest and a bit of recreation with his friends, followed by a renewed commitment to the game.

"I went on vacation with my girlfriend and Albert Costa and his girlfriend as well. We went somewhere to relax, enjoy our life have some fun -- to be like a regular person. "Then I said from now on,

since first of December, we start to work and .. I changed my physical trainer, I continued with my coach. We just made a good plan to see if I can be back at the top." This year Corretja reached

the semifinals in Sydney, hit a bit of a lull when he was ousted in the second round of the "I was not fit enough to run Australian Open and rebounded with a solid performance in Spain's Davis Cup first round against Italy and a run to the quarterfinals at Scottsdale, Arizona, last week.

"It's huge, it's really big for me," said Corretja, who moved from 53rd to sixth in the ATP's Champions race. "I don't know what's going to be my ranking, but that's not the most important thing. The best thing for me is to be realizing that I can be a good player again."

claim they know other athletes

# It's all Internet hype!



Claims that Olym- body. pic competitors were using a new undetectable drug were shot down on

Monday as Internet hype, reports AFP. Allegations surfaced Sunday that up to 80 per cent of Australia's Olympic athletes were using hard-to-detect or undetectable drugs.

Nine Network television claimed that Olympic competitors were snapping up insulin growth factor, or IGF-1. The synthetic hormone is indistinguishable from that produced naturally by the body. Former powerlifter and confessed drug user Grant

Ellison, former javelin thrower Sue Howland, drummed out of the sport for drug use, and an unnamed sprinter, made the claims that were challenged by John Boultbee, Director of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) and the Australian Sports Drug Agency (ASDA).

Vicki Kapernick from ASDA -- the chief drug testing authority for the Sydney Olympics -said IGF-1 stimulated protein synthesis leading to an increase in muscle bulk.

But she said a 7mg vial, worth up to 1,000 dollars, would have to be taken daily for the drug to have an effect. And the main global manu-

facturer of the drug, GroPep,

said they only produce a

gramme, or less than a fifth of a

teaspoon, of IGF-1 a year, and export 90 percent of total pro-GroPep managing Director John Ballard said the total amount produced in the world

would not support even one athlete for six months. He warned athletes they were probably wasting their money and being sold water or glucose -- not the muscle building drug -- with any improvement coming from a placebo effect.

"The total amount of IGF-1

produced worldwide could never

support even a tiny fraction of

those who claim to be using it." Ballard noted. Kapernick said "naive" athletes might be misled by the Internet websites that were ag gressively marketing drugs for

sportsmen. "There seems to be whole industry out there pushing the stuff and naive athletes might be misled into buying it," she added.

One American site is offering a 30-day supply of what it claims to be IGF-1 for 130 US dollars, while many others offer a selection of hormones, which when taken as a cocktail were alleged to be capable of

SYDNEY, Mar 20: boosting IGF-1 levels in the ers on the programme who

Many websites were offering who are on drugs," he said volume discounts for as little as 50 US dollars for a 30-day fix.

try and contact these drug tak- particular.

Monday. "I'm angry, I'm really angry Boultbee said he would nev - -- the Sunday programme has ertheless follow up the allega - used hearsay to cast a slur on all Australian athletes and on "I will follow them up and AIS athletes and coaches in



Bangladesh Power **Development Board** রাত ১১টা থেকে ভোর ৬টার

### মধ্যে সেচ পাম্প চালান Re-Auction Notice

Sealed auction tenders are invited from Power Development Board enlisted contractors or bonafide traders/purchasers (only those holding trade licence and last) financial years annual Income Tax clearance certificate) interested in auction purchase of various kinds condemned goods (such as, automobile spare parts, tyre-tube, 11&33] KV electrical spare parts, water pump, table fan etc of Grid Maintenance Division, Srimangal office. Tender schedule with prescribed terms and conditions can be collected from (1) Chief Engineer, Transmission, Power Development Board, Biddut Bhaban, 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka, (2) Superintending Engineer, GCTM Circle, Power Development Board, Biddut Bhaban, 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka, and (3) Sonali Bank, Srimangal branch on prior permission of Executive Engineer, GMD, PDB, Srimangal against Tk 100/= (one hundred) only (non-refundable) worth Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank in favour of Deputy Director (Accounts), ZAO, PDB, Sylhet/cash payment during office/banking hours up to 4-4-2000. Tenders will be received at the office of the Chief Engineer, Transmission, Dhaka; Superintending Engineer, GCTM Circle, Dhaka and the undersigned up to 12-00 Noon of 5-4-2000 and the tenders will be opened on the same day (5-4-2000) at 12-30 PM at all offices in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their approved representatives. Earnest money at the rate 5% (five per cent) of the quoted amount must be deposited with tender in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of Deputy Director (Accounts), ZAO, PDB, Sylhet. The authority is not bound to accept the highes' tender and reserves the right to cancel any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. No tender document will be sold/received by post. Tender should be dropped in prescribed box only. Interested contractors/purchasers may inspect the goods as it is where it is on permission of the undersigned during office hours up to the day before the tender submitting date. Income Tax/VAT should be paid as per existing rules prior to taking delivery of goods.

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**Executive Engineer** GMD, PDB, Srimangal

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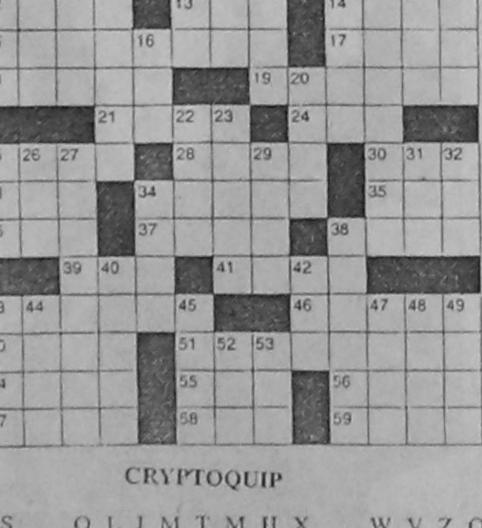
Z AJKHS QFI T LZSF Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THIS GENIAI JEWELER WAS OFTEN WONT TO JEST THAT HE HAD A HEART OF GOLD.

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 dues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error. © 1999 by King Features Syndicate, Inc.



OLJMTMHX PZVZUQ CFFIZUQ IJUZQPI, KUHFWW

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals D



W V.ZO AHKM

