

## Rehan City's hero

Sports Reporter  
An all-round performance by Rehan Rajique helped City Club to record a three-wicket victory over Wari Club in a Religation League match of the Janakantha Premier Division cricket at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Rehan, the left-arm Pakistani spinner, took three wickets for 37 runs in the morning session to bowl out Wari for 223 in 50 overs. He then hammered an unbeaten 115 as City reached 224 for seven with nine balls to spare.

The one-down batsman, who took 54 balls to reach fifty and faced another 53 balls to reach hundred, hit one six and seven boundaries in his 120-ball sterling show.

Other notable scorers were Rawnak with 32 off 53 balls and Nuruzzaman's 29-ball 24.

Earlier, put into bat, Wari's total was built around Sri Lankan Dilan Ramanayake's 55 and opener Anup Kumar who chipped in 46.

City Club's other left-arm spinner Masood Rana took four for 36.

It was City Club's fifth win in 13 matches that raised their tally to 10 points. On the other hand, it was the eleventh defeat for the centenary club that kept them second from the bottom in the six-team table with four points.

## Dravid smacks Zimbabwe

CANTERBURY, England, May 5 (AFP/Reuters): Zimbabwe endured a punishing day in the field as Indian batsman Rahul Dravid hit a brilliant unbeaten 182 to help Kent compile an imposing total of 380 for five on the second day of their four-day tour match on Thursday.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the four-day tour match between Kent and Zimbabwe on Thursday:

#### ZIMBABWE: First innings

159

#### KENT: First innings

(Overnight 10-1)

E Smith lbw b Streak 4

R Key lbw b Streak 4

D Masters c Carlisle b Mbawanga 0

R Dravid not out 182

A Wells c Johnson b Viljoen 58

J Hockey c sub b G Whittall 74

P Nixon not out 27

Extras: (w-2 nb-12; lb-10, b-7) 31

Total: (For five wickets) 380

Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-11; 3-11; 4-115; 5-323.

To bat: M Fleming, J Golding, M Patel, D Scott.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Streak 22 7 49 2  
Mbawanga 9 3 14 1  
Johnson 14 3 64 0  
Nkala 13 0 62 0  
G Whittall 20 2 75 1  
Viljoen 9 0 48 1  
G Flower 21 6 42 0  
Gripper 2 0 9 0

## Rajshahi cricket

### From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, May 5: Jubo Cricket School recorded a 91-run win over National Sporting Club in the second Siraj Memorial cricket tournament at the Rajshahi Medical College Campus playground today.

The winners made 204 for five wickets in the stipulated 25 overs.

Jubair scored the highest 57 while Sajib followed him with 56.

In reply, National Sporting shot out for 123 in 20 overs. Salauddin with 50 was the top-scorer while Saiful and Pawel scored 13 each. Samrat took three wickets for 19.

In other match of the day, Damkura Krira Development Association beat Primary Krira Training Centre by 9 runs.

## India won't

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later this month.

"It is my personal opinion not to play because of the prevalent atmosphere," Kapil had said earlier in the day. "You can understand what frame of mind the players will be in."

Kapil, however, stressed he will not desert the team if the BCCI sent the team to the tournament featuring India's arch-rivals Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

"I can't leave the team at this stage. I am with the boys," he said.

BCCI secretary Jayawant Lele said the team will take part in the May 28-June 7 tournament in Dhaka against Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh since international commitments had to be honoured.

"What Kapil Dev says is his view, it is not our view," Lele said. "We have international commitments to honour and we will honour them."

Kapil claimed the raging controversy had not affected the morale of the Indian players in any way.

"It has not affected them. Why should it affect them? So many allegations have been raised against so many people."

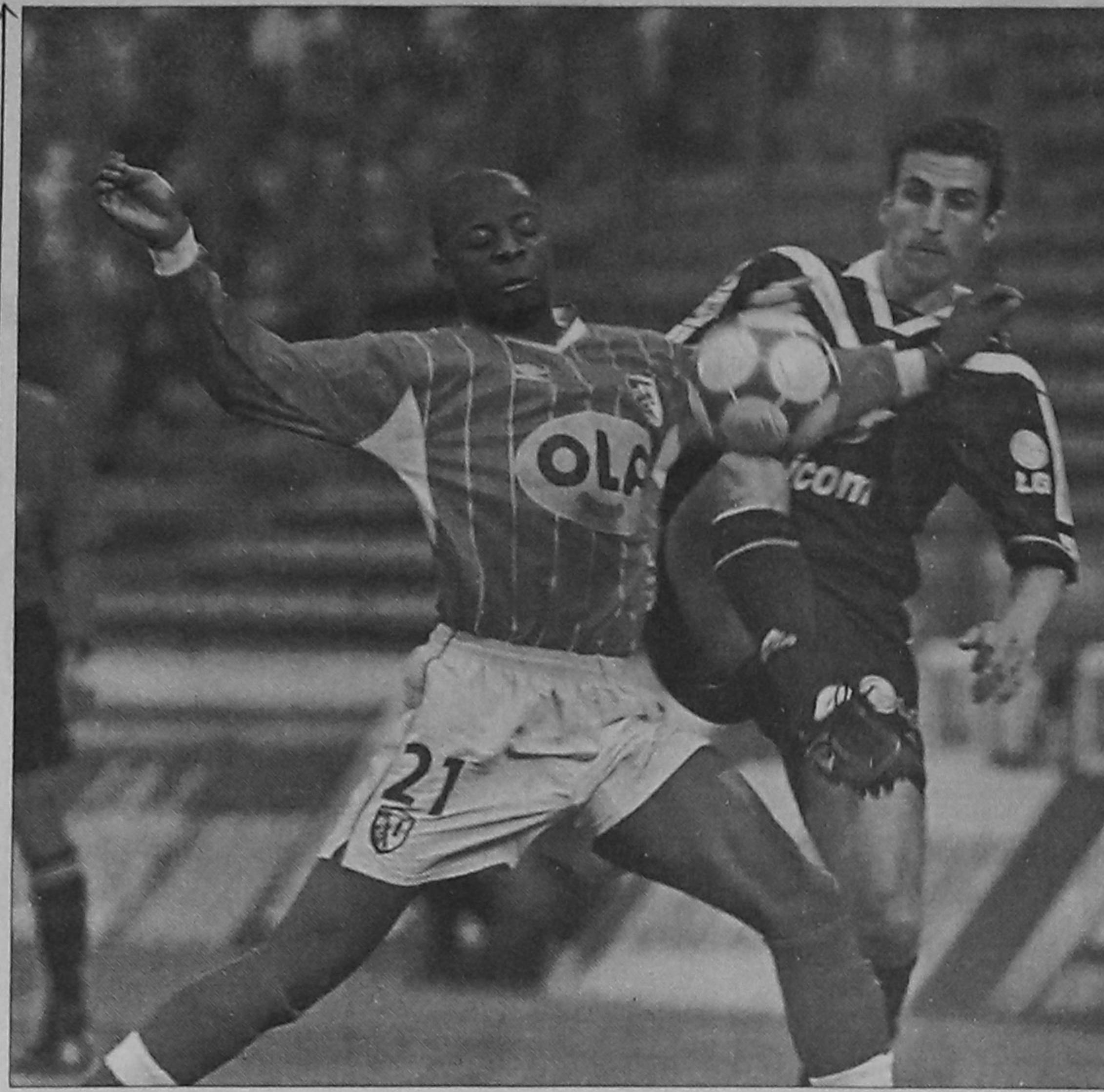
## Kapil sonsiders

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in India.

Cronje, who denied the charge, was later sacked as captain when he admitted receiving 10,000-15,000 to provide weather and pitch information to bookmakers during an earlier series in South Africa.

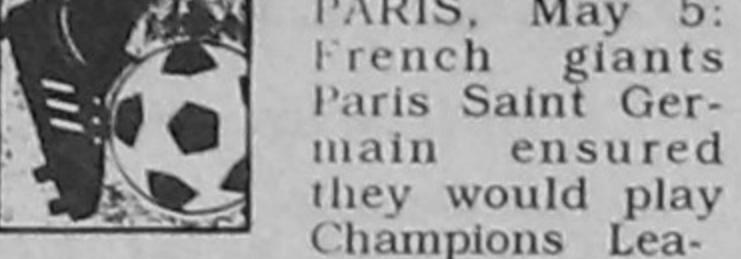
The International Cricket Council (ICC), who conclude an emergency session on Wednesday, said it would impose life bans on cricketers found guilty of betting or match-fixing.



Pascal Nouma (L), the Lens striker, trying to get the better of a Bordeaux defender during their French First Division match at Bordeaux on May 4. —AFP photo

## French First Division

### PSG book Champs' League seat



PARIS, May 5: French giants Paris Saint Germain ensured they would play Champions League next season as they downed Montpellier 3-0 on Thursday while impoverished Nancy fought back twice to hold Marseille 2-2 and leave the unloved aristocrats in real danger of relegation, reports AFP.

There was joy for 1995 champions Nantes, who face amateurs Calais on Sunday in the Cup final, as they moved out of the bottom three above Nancy with a 1-0 win over Sedan but unglamorous Le Havre saw their nine year stay end with a 5-2 hammering at the hands of champions Monaco, for whom disenchanted keeper Fabien Barthez played.

Nancy, who host Auxerre in the final match on May 13, are currently on 39 points one behind Nantes, who travel to Le Havre, and Rennes, who will play Metz, while Marseille are on 41 but face a tough trip to Sedan for their final match - even Troyes on 42 cannot feel assured of safety as their goal difference is the worst of the quintet and host PSG in the final match.

PSG's brilliant but erratic midfielder Laurent Robert scored one of the goals of the season with a screaming 35 metres freekick in the first minute against his former club Montpellier, who were already condemned to the Second Division.

Robert added a second from a bizarre corner that bemused the Montpellier defence and Pierre Ducrocq added a third right on the final whistle to round off a fine win and a night of celebration for the Parisians - veteran keeper Bernard Lama celebrated his final home match for the club with a lap of honour at the end.

The final Champions League place will be decided between Lyon, who came from a goal down to beat Bastia 2-1 and leave their visitors without an away win this season, and Bordeaux who went down 2-1 at home to improving Lens and trail Lyon by two points.

Lyon went behind to Bastia as Fredric Neet netted from close range for his 11th of the season.

However, Bastia were pegged back shortly before halftime when Fredric Violeau's long

range effort took a huge deflection and beat the keeper and bigspending Lyon were ahead within three minutes of the second-half when Pierre Laigle scored his first of the season sidefooting the ball past Eric Durand.

Lens took the lead in the 25th minute when Pascal Nouma headed home from Olivier Dacourt's spectacular bicycle kick cross - the former PSG striker added a second late in the second-half with another header.

However, last year's champions fought back against their predecessors as titleholders as Stephane Ziani scored from close range.

Monaco's Italian star Marco Simone, sporting like the rest of the team apart from shaven-headed Barthez dyed hair in the French national colours, opened the scoring against Le Havre with a stunning strike from 30 metres out.

Argentine master Marcelo Gallardo added a second early in the second-half slotting home after Simone's outstanding long ball from the centre of the pitch.

Le Havre, who have spent nine seasons in the elite without leaving any sort of mark after winning two titles at the turn of the 20th century, looked briefly to have given themselves hope as they reduced the deficit when Guillaume Beuzelin scored from just outside the area.

However, the effervescent Simone sidefooted home a third to leave Le Havre without a hope of salvation and leading scorer David Trezeguet added a fourth for his 21st of the season to move to within one of the league's leading marksmen Sonny Anderson and then moved onto 22 with another goal five minutes from the whistle.

France's most controversial and least loved club Marseille, whose ambushing of Monaco players during their 4-2 win last month left them in even more disgrace, took the lead against fellow relegation-threatened Nancy when Cyril Pouget headed home.

Fouget scored a second in the 35th minute but it was ruled out for blatant handball by strike partner Ibrahima Bakayoko against a Nancy side that curiously left their leading scorer Tony Cascarino, a former Marseille favourite, on the bench.

Nancy, though, grabbed a de-

served equaliser six minutes into the second-half when Samuel Wurtz's delicious 30 metres shot beat Stephane Porato but Stephane Perez restored Marseille's lead with 15 minutes to go when he tapped home.

However, Nancy refused to live up to their nickname of Nancy boys and levelled the match again when Mehdi Menri took advantage of a dreadful misjudgement by Porato, who left the ball thinking it was going out, and then shot past the keeper at his near post.

Alioune Toure struck with the goal that all the Nantes fans had been waiting for on the hour-mark running onto Nicolas Savina's superb long ball and shot calmly into the far corner of the net.

Nantes, who only won the championship as recently as 1995 and lost just one match, had a goal disallowed early on as Argentine defender Nestor Fabri was adjudged to have pushed over his opposing number and then headed the ball home.

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Steve Marlet sealed the three points as he shot home from close range for the home side's first win in nine matches and Guivarch, who appears to have found his level after two seasons of torture with Newcastle and Rangers in Scotland, shot home minutes later for his 14th of the campaign.

Bernard Diomede, like Guivarch a long forgotten member of the French World Cup winning squad, added a fourth on the hour to edge Rennes into deep trouble.

The portly 61-year-old Roux, who guided Auxerre to the 1996 double, ended the match by doing several celebratory laps and after 39 years in the job can look forward to the justifiable reward of tending his vines in retirement.

The final in Paris next month - probably against Primera Liga rivals Valencia, who lead Barcelona 4-1 in the other semi-final at the half-way point.

Another good performance and we'll be in Paris if we stay calm. I'm convinced we'll score at least once in Munich and then they'll have to get four. That's difficult against Real - although Bayern have in fact done that twice already this season," said McManaman to *Marca* magazine.

"This time it will be different as the team now have much more confidence," said McManaman, who is now just two games away from achieving what he had once dreamed of doing with Liverpool - winning a European Cup.

McManaman, who has looked more and more comfortable in the famous white shirt of the seven-times European champions in recent weeks, concurred with that view and said he believed Real were ready to reclaim the trophy last won in 1998 against Juventus. "I think that was my best game for Real, probably even better than the one at Old Trafford in the last round," explained a McManaman who was confident the club could look forward to a place in

to have a repeat of the marvellous evening in Manchester."

Against United in the quarter-finals Real had only managed a goalless draw for the home leg and had to conjure up their best performance of the

final in Paris next month - probably against Primera Liga rivals Valencia, who lead Barcelona 4-1 in the other semi-final at the half-way point.

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