



Hewitt, the former world number

one and bidding to become the first

Australian to capture the local Grand

Slam in 28 years, was decisively winning 6-2, 6-4, 0-1 when US oppo-

nent Cecil Mamiit retired with a hurt

Hewitt has won by default after Carlos Moya and Martin Verkerk

retired hurt in the final and semi-

final of last week's Sydney

do," Hewitt said afterward.

by Spaniard Albert Costa.

"It's never a way you want to win a match. But I've got to go out there and try and focus on what I've got to

Less fortunate, Briton Greg

Rusedski found no respite from the doping controversy surrounding him in recent weeks as he was emphatically drubbed out of the

season's first Grand Slam 6-4, 6-3, 6-4

stomach bug caught in Sydney last

week and which restricted him to just

30 minutes practice before his game.

Coria slipped up 7-6, 6-2, 6-4 to Frenchman Cyril Saulnier. The Argentine had pulled out of last week's Auckland Open with an

Rusedski blamed the loss on a

World number five Guillermo

He was later cleared to play in

"I had a great result at Wimbledon

"Days like this is why we play. I am

2003 French Open winner

He was followed through by

183

8

71

4 15

5

2 55

20.2

12 2 23

Ferrero did not hang about, pounding fellow Spaniard Albert Montanes

6-0,6-1,6-1 for a resounding victory.

British 11th seed Tim Henman who

ousted France's Jean-Rene Lisnard 6-

Melbourne but was far from his best

when I beat Xavier Malisse, but today

is something else," said Saulnier.

like a wine that improves with age."

against the world number 76.

It was the third match a row

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman (C) inaugurates the Dhaka Zonal round of the Standard Chartered 22nd National Schools Cricket Competition at the Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

### Federer on song



AFP/REUTERS, Melbourne

World number two Roger Federer sent a defiant message to rivals at the Australian Open Tuesday by blowing past his first round opponent and showing he can compete in a Grand Slam event even without a coach.

Federer, who dropped his long-time Swedish coach Peter Lundgren in December and has yet to find a replacement, took just 90 minutes to dispatch 117th-ranked American qualifier Alex Bogomolov 6-3, 6-4, 6-

While his convincing game drew few questions in the post-match press conference, Federer was peppered with queries about his decision to come to Melbourne without a coach.

"I know it's difficult to start the season without a coach, but that was my decision," he said, adding that proposals from would-be replacements as coach were already coming

Playing in tricky winds, high humidity and temperatures that reached 36.5 degrees centigrade (98 Fahrenheit), Federer was joined by third seed Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain, Argentine eighth seed David Nalbandian and Australia's Lleyton Hewitt in advancing to the Open's second round.

Venus Williams also made a triumphant if rusty return to tournament play after a six-month break by overpowering fellow American Ashley Harkleroad 6-2, 6-1 in a 51 $minute, Center-Court \, romp.\\$ 

Williams, a former world number one playing competitively for the first time since losing the Wimbledon singles final to sister Serena in July, overpowered her

opponent, but with some weakness in form.  $\,$ 

She notably struggled to find fluency in her service game despite managing to uncork some typically ferocious ground-strokes in her defeat of Harkleroad.

The 23-year-old missed much of last season with a nagging abdominal injury and then saw her professional problems overwhelmed by family tragedy when half-sister Yetunde was murdered in Los Angeles in September.

Nevertheless, Williams declared herself pleased with her perfor-

"It's a little bit sentimental, but during the match I was really very focused on my performance," Williams said. "Afterwards it was really just a breath of fresh air like, 'Oh yes, I'm back now'," Williams

Williams now plays Russia's Vera Douchevina in the next round.

The ankle injury that threatened to force second seed Kim Clijsters out of the opening Grand Slam of the year came through the test with flying colours in the night session. All she had to overcome was a little rustiness to advance 6-3, 6-2 over Marlene Weingaertner.

"I didn't really have any problems with the ankle and that's the most  $important\,thing, "\,she\,said.$ 

Nalbandian, 22, confirmed his position as a dark horse after he defeated defending champ Andre Agassi in last week's Kooyong Classic re by scoring an emphatic 6-2, 6-1 6-4 victory over Brazil's Ricardo

Nalbandian, a runner-up to Hewitt at Wimbledon two years ago, brushed aside a nagging wrist injury that hampered his season last year and put a question-mark over his trade-mark baseline power.

#### Victoria match rescheduled AFP, Melbourne

The Sheffield Shield cricket match between Victoria and South Australia this weekend has been rescheduled following the death of Victorian coach and former Test star David Hookes.

Cricket Australia said Tuesday the match would be played from February 8 to 11 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Hookes died Monday from injuies sustained when he was allegedly bashed outside a Melbourne pub.

Victorian and South Australian cricketers and officials were with Hookes late Sunday when the incident occurred.

"We have agreed to the request after consultation with everyone involved," a Cricket Australia spokesman said on Tuesday.

### Roy bites

FROM PAGFE 13

win a place in the last four. South Korea's Hyung Joon Lim and Sanam Singh of India filled the

other two quarterfinal slots. Meanwhile, on the distaff side top seed Madura Ranganathan led an

all-Indian domination. Madura, winner of the Rajshahi title, defeated compatriot Gayatri

Krishnan 6-0, 6-3. Murali Vandana won the battle of compatriots against V Poojashree 7-6, 6-3. Gangotri Sandri recorded a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Ting Yu Lin while Kaartiki Bhat recorded a 6-0, 4-6, 6-2

Another Indian girl Punom Reddy Another Indian girl Punom Reddy beat Chi Hui Huang of Chinese Taipei 6-4, 6-4 and South Korea's Jung Yoon Shin won her second round clash against K Kanykey of

### Black cloud

While their supporters were letting their anger out in the open, Mohammedan officials vowed not to take any further part in the championship unless the DMFLC reconsidered their appeal of disallowing the goal.

In a letter to the DMFLC, the club demanded that the authorities go through the video footages of that controversial moment and decide whether the goal was legitimate or not. The club also appealed for exemplary punishment for Ghosh because of his 'biased' decision. The club requested DMFLC to re-start the match from where it was stopped. The letter signed by the Motijheel giants' general secretary Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan, also warned that the club will not be responsible for any untoward situation that may arise if the DMFLC failed to reconsider the disciplinary measures taken against it.

### Moratti's stunning step-down

### Facchetti new Inter president

Football

SPÖRT

Former Italy and Inter full-back Giacinto Facchetti has taken over from Massimo Moratti as president of Serie A giants Inter Milan.

Moratti, 58, resigned on Monday, a day after a humiliating 1-0 home defeat by relegation-

"He's the right man in the right ace," Moratti said of Fachetti who had been one of the club's vice-presidents. "It's not a drama, it's a decision that allows me to take a step back,

which allows me to see things better, and nothing else. "Hopefully this can kick-start a

positive reaction throughout the Moratti confirmed he had not relinquished ownership of the

On Sunday, and not for the first

banners demanding the president's resignation, but Moratti insisted the supporters' reaction was not the reason behind his

This step has nothing to do with what happened on Sunday," he said. "I only saw one banner and

wasn't terrible."

However, former Inter star Ronaldo, who left the club in August 2002 to join Spanish giants Real Madrid, believes the fans

"He will be disappointed because Inter have struggled to get the results that a squad like that deserve," the Brazilian told the Gazzetta dello Sport.

is something else. I believe the fans' protests hurt him and made him give in. The protests on Sunday were not the first.'

Belozoglu, sent-off in Sunday's

responsibility for the club's alarming dip in form which has seen them go from title contenders to

eventually got to Moratti.

"But I believe that the problem

Inter's Turkish midfielder Emre

MASSIMO MORATTI

"He's given everything to this club and put in money that has enabled us to build a competitive squad," he said.

"He deserved so much but we have given him nothing. I hope he econsiders his decision.

Moratti has spent 600 million euros, bought 103 players and employed 10 coaches since he took over in 1995, but it has failed to yield the Scudetto - last won in the 1988/89 season - despite having lured players of the calibre of Ronaldo and Christian Vieri to the

Ronaldo was still at the club when they won the only trophy during Moratti's reign, the 1998 UEFA Cup in which they beat domestic rivals Lazio 3-0.

Their best chance of the title was in the 2001/02 season when they went into the final day of the season leading the championship but defeat by Lazio handed the title to Juventus and AS Roma also overtook them for second.

left Inter trailing leaders Roma by 11 points with half the season gone.

# Dudhia, tournament committee member-secretary Adnan Rahman 5 in 35 overs (Refat 69, Nadim 43, Anisur 41; Fahmid 1-35, Maruf 1-

YOU'RE STILL PLAYING I HOPE! Sheikh Rashed bin Mohammed Al Maktoum (L) talks to Manchester United defender Rio Ferdinand (R) during a training session at the Dubai Police Officers Club yesterday. Members of the English club flew to Dubai hours after the 1-0 defeat by English Premiership bottom-of-the-table Wolves for a brief stay in Dubai before returning for this weekend's FA Cup fourth round clash with Northampton Town.

## Ferdinand appeals

### Football

on Monday.

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England defender Rio Ferdinand has officially appealed against his eight-month suspension for missing a drugs test, it was announced by English football's governing body The Football Association (FA)

The 25-year-old Manchester United centre-back starts his ban on Tuesday but has still decided to appeal the decision by a tribunal in December that he merited an eight-month ban - a decision deemed "savage" and "unprecedented" by club lawyer Maurice Watkins.

"I want to get back playing," Ferdinand said. "If starting the suspension now

will help, then I'm prepared to suffer it.

The FA will now set up another three-man panel, chaired by a

Fulham began Premiership life

without leading striker Louis Saha

in the worst possible fashion here

on Monday with a comprehensive

3-1 defeat at the hands of

Speed and a spectacular effort by

Frenchman Laurent Robert

wrapped up a miserable day for the

Londoners as earlier Saha con-

firmed he was leaving for 12million

Sean Davis grabbed a consola-

tion effort for Fulham, whose

return of one point from a possible

18 from their last six away matches

are seriously hurting their hopes of

qualifying for the Champions

League and with Luis Boa Morte

their top scorer now with just five

they need a proven striker.

pounds to Manchester United.

Goals from Andy O'Brien, Gary

Premiership

Football

**AFP,** Newcastle

tative to determine Ferdinand's ble. fate but any hearing might not take place till the end of February or

legally qualified non-FA represen-

clear to play if his suspension is

of the remainder of United's season. Euro 2004 and the start of the 2004-05 campaign, including England's first two World Cup qualifiers in Austria and Poland. The three-man appeals panel

could theoretically increase Ferdinand's sentence although his decision to begin the ban would appear to make that unlikely.

"I feel strongly that I have given

stances which led to my mistake and I believe that the verdict and the ban are wrong.

to resume playing as soon as possi-

Manchester United chief executive David Gill underlined the club's new non-confrontational approach over the issue by admitting Ferdinand had made "a serious mistake" when he drove away from United's training ground on September 23 after being asked to provide a urine sample for a doping

Gill said: "Rio recognises that he has made a serious mistake, which is why he will begin the suspension immediately rather than wait for the outcome of the appeals proce-

Even if Ferdinand loses his appeal, the case will not necessarily end there. He could resort to action in the civil courts or plead his case before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

### Park on Tuesday: declared (Gibbs 192, Smith 139, Kallis

130 not out; Sarwan 2-55) WEST INDIES: First innings 301 (Gayle 77, Chanderpaul 42; Ntini 5-49, Nel 3-

WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight 263-3)

Lara lbw b Nel Smith b Ntini Jacobs lbw b Pollock Drakes c Gibbs b Pollock

0 32 Ntini 28 4 15.4 2 16

Bowler Dillon Edwards Result: South Africa won by 10 Gibbs.

match (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points): 22 15 7 0 42 14 52

Man Utd 22 16 2 4 40 22 14 4 4 40 Chelsea 22 10 7 5 31 Newcastle 22 8 9 5 30 Liverpool 21 9 5 7 31

### Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-50, 3-86, 4-88, 5- Rana c Mustadir b Arman National Cricket League matches played 121, 6-132, 7-132, 8-140, 9-172

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Solution time: 21 mins

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9 Trouble

abbr.

3 %

By Eugene Sheffer

at different venues across the country

KHULNÁ V CHITTAGONG Venue: Shamsul Huda Stadium, Jessore KHULNA: First innings 285 all out in 120.1 overs (Bashir 98 not out, Morshed 51, Hasanuzzaman 48, Shafiul 21, Razzak 19; Hasan 5-107, Raihan 3-51)

CHITTAGONG: First innings 358 all out in 158.4 overs (Anisul 118, Salahuddin 66, Arif 68; Al-Amin 1-47, Foizul 1-61 Razzak 3-88, Bashir 2-60, Shafiul 1-24,

Nizamuddin 2-65) KHULNA: Second innings Shafiul b Hasan Jalal c Arif b Sabbi

Al-Amin c Yasir b Hasan

Extras: (b-8, lb-3, nb-6, w-1)

Total: (All out in 91.2 overs)

CROSSWORD

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Foizul b Sabbir

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 $Hasibul\, run\, out$ Hasanuzzaman run out Bashir c Yasir b Raihan Nizamuddin c Paul b Raihan Neaz b Sabbir Asadullah not out Razzak c Mukter b Sabbir

0 21 13 65 Sabbir 31.2 Raihan 25.1 10 47 Hasan 21.5 42 Masum Result: Match drawn. Man-of-the-match: Tamim Bashir SYLHET V BARISAL

SYLHET: First innings 375 all out in 143.1 overs (Nasirul 89, Rana 73, Parvez 55, Mowla 49; Mustadir 3-84, Tarigul 3-

BARISAL: First innings 217 all out in 84.2 overs (Mustadir 35, Salahuddin 54; Iakwan 4-83. Nabil 3-47, Imtiaz 1-29,

**SYLHET**: Second innings (overnight 99-

Mabud c Shaheen b Arafat  $Emtiaz\,c Jamal\,b\,Tariqul$ Parvez b Arafat Atiqur b Mustadir

Mowla c Imran b Tarigul

Nasirul c Iamal b Tarigul

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49 Egg

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7 Cribbage 30 Approach

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literature

Total: (For 7 wkts decl in 40 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-15, 3-17, 4-46, 5-93, 6-181, 7-183 Bikash Arafat Tarigul Arman Mustadii BARISAL: Second innings Arman b Ejaz Towhid not out

65

Imran c Mowla b Ejaz Jamal c Atiqur b Imtiaz Nahidul b Mowla Projshenjit c Parvez b Nabil 11 Salahuddin not out Extras:(b-9, nb-2, w-5) 16 Total: (For 5 wkts in 45 overs) 201 Fall of wkts: 1-31, 2-98, 3-151, 4-168, 5-Bowler Jakwan 11 0 1 Parvez

CRYPTOQUIP QDJDJADQDC

FHJD, VNFCDQDC, VNPEC

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOME PUEBLO

TRIBE IS LÍVING IN HARMONY, YOU MAY HAVE

MHJKEK

A GREAT BIG HOPI FAMILY. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals M

A D

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 clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Mowla 0 15 0

Result: Match drawn. Man-of-the-match: Nasirul Alam RAJSHAHI V DHAKA

Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium RAJSHAHI: First innings 249 all out in 36 overs (Anisur 76 not out, Rafiqul 47 Aminul 42. Shahzada 25: Naimur 4-76 Elias 3-53, Ashraful 2-46)

DHAKA: First innings 374 all out in 138.3 overs (Mehrab 169, Sanwar 42, Kadir 67; Shahzada 2-52, Saifullah 5-113, Imran 1-101, Mahbub 2-81) RAJSHAHI: Second innings (overnight

Rafiqul c azzad b Elias Jamiul c Sajjad b Elias Anisur c Saiful b Elias Mortuza b Elias Nuruzzaman c Sajjad b Ashraful Hasanuzzaman lbw b Naimur Mahbub lbw b Naimur

Imran c Mehrab b Shahriar Aminul c Naimur b Shahriar 11 Shahjada b Shahriar Saifullah not out Extras: (b-5, lb-12, nb-2, w-3) Total: (All out in 104.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-64, 2-78, 3-79, 4-100,

5-136, 6-181, 7-192, 8-204, 9-230 10 2 1 Neeyamur

9 Elias 17 Sanwar 5 Shahriar 6.5

DHAKA: Second innings Naimur c and b Shahzada Mehrab c Mahbub b Shahzada Jahangir run out Sajjad c Shamimul b Saifullah Neevamur run out Uttam c Rafigul b Saifullah Kadir not out

Extras: (lb-2, w-2) Total: (For 6 wkts in 13.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-35, 3-62, 4-64, 5-102, 6-103 Shahzada Saifullah 6.5

the Premiership's oldest manager Result: Match drawn Sir Bobby Robson handed out a Man-of-the-match: Mehrab Hossain (Dhaka) tactical lesson to the league's youngest Chris Coleman.

even the beginning of March. If the ban is upheld, Ferdinand will be barred from playing until

September 20. But with England due to begin their Euro 2004 campaign against France in Lisbon on June 13, Ferdinand knows he would be

halved. However no diminishment of his punishment would rule him out

In a statement Ferdinand apologised for his "oversight" in missing the test and said he wanted

Fulham feel Saha's absence Robert's goal was a stunner as he acrobatically launched himself with his back to goal to Nolberto

Solano's cross and hooked it over

Edwin van der Sar to wrap up the

match with almost 40 minutes

remaining. The ever enthusiastic Barry Hayles kept labouring away and came close to reducing the deficit with a fine curling effort from outside the penalty area in the 59th minute, but despite beating Shay

Given it went just past the far post. Davis put Fulham on the mark in the 75th minute when a botched Newcastle clearance fell to him and his shot from outside the area beat Given before going in off the post. O'Brien struck in the fourth

minute as the Fulham defence failed to clear the ball and the Irishman rifled home the ball after Alan Shearer had an effort blocked from Jonathan Woodgate's pass from the by-line. Speed scored under almost identical circumstances from a

For Newcastle, however, it saw Robert corner nipping in in front of them rise to fifth place over their two Fulham defenders and van der opponents and Liverpool - who Sar to head home in the 40th minhave a game in hand - and to four points of fourth placed Charlton as Newcastle fully deserved the 2-0

margin after dominating the opening period and would have had a larger lead if it had been Shearer

from Kieron Dyer but his point blank header from five yards out somehow missed. Bernard did redeem himself late in the first-half when his last ditch tackle deprived Boa Morte of a a

instead of Olivier Bernard who

received the 11th minute cross

on the hosts goal but with it at his mercy and Shay Given struggling to get across his effort went into the sidenetting. On this showing Fulham would have wished that United had made a mistake and signed Argentinian Facundo Sava - scorer of just seven goals in 38 appearances for the club in three seasons and an unim-

pressive second-half substitute

here - and not Saha.

shot when clear on goal - the

Portuguese striker had the

Londoners only other worthy effort

English Premiership table after Monday's

The defeat by Empoli on Sunday

#### Schools cricket FROM PAGE 13

the Dhanmondi Club ground, Maple Leaf crushed Cephalon International School by 118 runs at the Uttara Friends Club ground and University Laboratory registered a five-wicket victory over BCSIR High School. In the morning, State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur

Rahman inaugurated the meet. Tournament Committee Chairman Shah Nurul Kabir Shahin, Bangladesh Cricket Board's CEO Maqbul Hussein

Dipon and sponsors' representa-tive Badrul Ahsan were also pres-**SCORES IN BRIEF** MOTIJHEEL IDEAL SCHOOL: 216-

**LORETTO**: 220-8 in 34.5 overs (Tarun 40 n.o, Fahmid 30; Prosengith 2-11 and Shihab 2-45). Result: Loretto won by two wickets.

MAPLE LEAF: 268-2 in 30 overs

(Adnan Sarwar 139 n.o, Adnan 38, Rewan 36; Ovi 1-30). **CEPHALON INT'L**: 87-10 in 16.3 overs (Rezaur 17, Nafis 13; Ovic 3/3, Adnan Sarwar 2/17).

Result: Maple Leaf won by 118 BCSIR HIGH: 127 in 28 overs

(Rashid 15, Russell 14; Ashok 4-20, Razib 2-10).

### **UNI LAB**: 128-5 in 19 overs (Hasan 46, Razib 18; Zia 3-35). Result: University Laboratory won by five-wickets.

SA take series 3-0 Smith tried an extravagant drive against Ntini and was bowled between bat and pad. He was Ntini's 29th victim of the series, equalling Pollock's record for most

Indies, set in a five-Test contest in Pollock took both wickets after lunch, having Vasbert Drakes caught at gully and then trapping

wickets in a series against the West

Ridley Jacobs leg before. Tail-ender Mervyn Dillon took an aggressive approach and hit 29 with some bold strokes before he was caught at first slip off Pollock. Collymore and Edwards also attacked and Edwards slammed Pollock for six over midwicket before he was yorked by Andre Nel.

SCOREBOARD Final scoreboard on the fifth day of the fourth and final Test between South Africa and the West Indies at Centurion SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 604 for 6

Gayle c McKenzie b Ntini Ganga b Ntini Sarwan lbw b Pollock 119 Chanderpaul c Gibbs b Kallis

Dillon c Smith b Pollock Collymore not out 13 Edwards b Nel Extras: (b-4, lb-11, nb-8, w-7) Total: (All out in 106.4 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-32, 3-99, 4-273, 5 277, 6-278, 7-284, 8-309, 9-322 Bowler 10 Pollock 69

99

Nel 64 Kallis 4 49 Hall 0.2 24 Rudolph 24 SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings Smith not out Gibbs not out Extras: (b-4, nb-1, w-10) Total: (For no loss in 3.4 overs) 0 25

wickets and take the series 3-0. Man-of-the-match: Herschelle Man-of-the-series: Makhaya