Ton eludes Ponting

Cricket

AFP, *Harare*

Captain Ricky Ponting came within nine runs of his 16th one-day century at Harare Sports Club Tuesday when Australia beat Zimbabwe in the first of three internationals by seven wickets and with more than 10 overs to spare.

Named man-of-the-match afterwards, Ponting scored a flourishing 91 to at least claim a 41st half-century.

He needed only 93 balls, hitting three sixes and six fours. Ponting and Damien Martyn put together a 144 runs partnership for the third wicket that left Zimbabwe on the back foot to the end.

Martyn finished undefeated on 74, the 22nd time he has passed 50 in this form of the game.

The innings got off to a shock start, however, Matthew Hayden falling to the first ball bowled by Zimbabwe discovery Tinashe Panyangara.

The final scores were Zimbabwe 205-9, to which Australia responded with 207-3.

Zimbabwe's performance was considerably better than most predictions, which had them bundled out for many different totals, most of these short of three figures. In reaching over 200 they confounded almost all cricket followers here.

The Australians were not, however, at their best. They have had a difficult tour and were flat, almost jaded. Four catches were dropped and the fielding was not to their normal standard.

Zimbabwe got off to a slow start, scoring only 27 in the first 15 overs. They also lost three early wickets.

But Brendan Taylor with 59 and captain Tatenda Taibu with 57 steered Zimbabwe to respectability. They put on 61 for the fourth wicket, which was actually used to launch a runs assault on the Australians.

Australia failed to get them all out. But despite the early loss of Hayden they were able to coast home with plenty in hand.

Now that they have a match under their belts after more than a week of waiting, Australia can be expected to give Zimbabwe a tougher time of it in the second match on this ground on Thursday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the first one-day international between Zimbabwe and Australia at Harare Sports Club yesterday:

ZIMBABWE

Matsikenyere c Gilchrist b Gillespie	8
Taylor c Ponting b Lehmann	59
Sibanda b McGrath	18
Ebrahim b Williams	8
Taibu c Ponting b Kasprowicz	57
Vermeulen c Ponting b Kasprowicz	20
Maragwede c Clarke b Gillespie	4
Nkala run out (Kasprowicz)	0
Panyangara not out	14
Mpariwa run out (Symonds)	4
Hondo not out	0
Extras: (b-2, lb-5, nb-2, w-4)	13
Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs)	205

Fall of wkts: 1-9, 2-46, 3-64, 4-125, 5-172, 6-184, 7-184, 8--188, 9-204.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
McGrath	10	1	35	1
Gillespie	10	4	21	2
Kasprowicz	10	2	26	2
Williams	5	0	31	1
Lehmann	6	0	32	1
Symonds	9	0	53	0

AUSTRALIA

Gilchrist c Sibanda b Hondo	26
Hayden c Mupariwa b Panyangara	0
Ponting c Sibanda b Panyangara	91
Martyn not out	74
Clarke not out	5
Extras: (lb-4 w-7)	11
Total: (For 3 wkts in 39.4 overs)	207

Fall of wkts: 1-1 2-53 3-197.

Did not bat: Symonds, Lehmann, Gillespie, Kasprowicz, Williams, McGrath.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hondo	7	0	40	1
Panyangara	9.4	1	48	2
Nkala	5	1	24	0
Mupariwa	10	1	47	0
Matsikenyeri	6	0	31	0
Sibanda	2	0	13	0

Result: Australia won by seven wickets.

Second ODI: May 27 - Harare

Third ODI: May 29 - Harare

42 entries for NFL qualifiers

SPORTS REPORTER

Only 41 district and one services teams sent their entries for the 4th National Football League (NFL) qualifying round before the deadline yesterday.

The qualifiers will begin across the country on July 21.

Last year, 58 teams took part in the qualifiers including two services teams.

However, the BFF will accept entries sent on the same day even if they reach the BFF office after the deadline.

Many of the teams, meanwhile, face the threat of disqualification because they were league champions of their respective districts before 2003.

The NFL organising committee will only allow teams from leagues held in 2003 and 2004.

Ctg hockey

CU CORRESPONDENT

Crescent Club recorded their first victory in the CJKS-JDC First Division Hockey League when they edged South Club 1-0 at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Tareq Arman netted the lone goal in the 13th minute. It was the third consecutive loss for South Club in three rounds.

Local giants Abahani Krira Chakra will take on Brothers Union today.

B'baria cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Chalantika Cricket Club and Titas Club won their respective matches in the Shaheed Freedom Fighter Rango Mia Cup cricket tournament at the Shahjadpur Junior High School playground in Brahmanbaria yesterday.

Titas bowled out Khelaghar Juba Sangha for 122 to snatch an exciting three-run win. Jamal, who scored 57, was adjudged man of the match.

Chalantika, defending a smaller total of 120 built around man-of-the-match Rajan's 55, defeated Pragati Cricket Club by ten runs.

Marketing in DU cricket final

DU CORRESPONDENT

Department of Marketing reached the final of the Dhaka University inter-department cricket tournament defeating Finance and Banking by eight wickets at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

In reply to Finance's 138-8, Marketing reached the target losing only two wickets.

Nafas hammered unbeaten 80 and Istiaque enjoyed a fine all-round show, scoring 28 after taking three wickets for 42 for Marketing.

Schools kabadi

UNB, *Dhaka*

Ansars & VDP School handed Mannan High School a massive 131-32 defeat in the 12th School Kabadi tournament at the Outer Stadium yesterday.

In the other matches, Maniknagar High School recorded an emphatic 87-37 victory over Khilgaon Government Staff Quarter Primary School while Dolairpar High School defeated Tamizuddin High School 76-50.

Lawson back

FROM PAGE 13

His action was under review by the International Cricket Council, after umpires David Shepherd and Srinivas Venkataraghavan reported him during the fourth Test against Australia at St John's last year.

Lawson's progress and his return were hindered by a simultaneous back injury that limited his bowling during the period that his action was under review.

Lawson has captured 29 wickets at 24.31 runs apiece in seven Tests.

During the 2003 home Test series against Australia, he distinguished himself with a hattrick in the third Test at Bridgetown and career-best figures of seven wickets for 78 runs at St John's.

Teenaged fast bowler Ravi Rampaul is the only uncapped Test player in the squad.

He has played 14 one-day internationals over the last 14 months however.

All the fast bowlers, except left-arm medium-fast bowler Pedro Collins, are under the age of 23 with Tino Best and Fidel Edwards completing the pace attack.

Unorthodox left-arm spin bowler Dave Mohammed has also earned a recall after an unimpressive Test debut against South Africa at Cape Town in January.

West Indies captain Brian Lara, who reclaimed the individual world batting record with an unbeaten 400 against England last month, returns to captain the side after missing the preceding ODI series that West Indies swept 3-0.

SQUAD: Brian Lara (captain), Ramnaresh Sarwan, Tino Best, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Pedro Collins, Fidel Edwards, Chris Gayle, Ridley Jacobs (wicketkeeper), Jermaine Lawson, Dave Mohammed, Ravi Rampaul, Devon Smith, Dwayne Smith.

An unlikely finale

UEFA CHAMPS LEAGUE

REUTERS, *Porto*

Porto and Monaco will receive their reward for astute management and a refreshing lack of respect for the European elite when they line up in the Champions League final in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, on Wednesday.

This will be only the fifth European Cup final, and the first since 1991, not to feature a club from one of the big four leagues of Spain, Italy, Germany and England.

A final meeting between two middleweights like Porto, who won the European Cup for the only time in their history in 1987, and Monaco, who will be playing in the final for the first time, would have been almost unthinkable at the start of the season.

Monaco were 80-1 at the start of the group stage, and Porto 40-1, to win the tournament.

The two sides have made it on strict merit, however, and they have the potential to serve up a far more entertaining final than last year's dour all-Italian meeting between winners AC Milan and Juventus.

Porto, led by wily coach Jose Mourinho, followed up their UEFA Cup win last season by beating Manchester United in the first knock-out round and going on to account for Olympique Lyon and Deportivo Coruna on their way to the final.

Monaco, after claiming an extraordinary 8-3 win over Deportivo in the group phase, continued to play with admirable panache in seeing off Lokomotiv Moscow, Real Madrid and moneybags Chelsea.

Both Mourinho and Monaco's Didier Deschamps have brought their teams this far while working on a fraction of the budget of Manchester United, Chelsea or Real Madrid and they are rightly proud of what they have achieved.

"I think in finals you don't have to think about favourites," Mourinho said as he prepared his side for the game in Porto.

"You have to speak about the teams and the wonderful ways we've arrived. They did it against Real Madrid and Chelsea, we did it against Real in the group phase and after against Manchester United and Deportivo. We did great things.

"People say that the big teams are not here but they're not here because we beat them. We deserve to be here."

There will still be plenty of quality on show on Wednesday.

Fernando Morientes, a Champions League winner with Real Madrid in 1998, 2000 and 2002, will receive valuable support from midfielders Ludovic Giuly and Jerome Rothen, two of the best French players in the league.

Porto will look to the inspiration of Brazilian-born Portuguese international Deco Souza in midfield, while the fast and skilful Brazilian forwards Derlei Silva and Carlos Alberto have the ability to trouble any defence.

Of the two sides, Monaco have perhaps played the more spectacular football, particularly in the big games against Deportivo, Real and Chelsea, and Deschamps wants his players to play the final in the same spirit.

"It's not a chess game between two coaches but between two teams who will try to endanger their opponent," said Deschamps, who won the European Cup as a player with Juventus and Olympique Marseille.

"I feel very happy to be in a Champions League final. The players deserve it because of their performances. I hope they'll win at the end because they deserve it."

Porto are attempting to become the first club to win the UEFA Cup and European Cup in successive seasons since Liverpool in 1976 and 1977 and Mourinho is also keen to see his players remain true to their form of the past two years.

"I just want my team to do in the final exactly what we have been doing," said Mourinho, who has won two league titles in the past two seasons, as well as last year's UEFA Cup.

With less than three weeks to go before the start of Euro 2004, the Champions League final will match up teams from the tournament's host nation, Portugal, and the defending champions, France.

If Porto emerge triumphant on Wednesday, the celebrations will still be going on when the club host the opening match of the Euro 2004 tournament at their Dragao stadium on June 12.

PROBABLE TEAMS

PORTO: 99-Vitor Baia; 22-Paulo Ferreira, 2-Jorge Costa, 4-Ricardo Carvalho, 8-Nuno Valente, 6-Francisco Costinha, 18-Maniche Ribeiro, 23-Pedro Mendes, 10-Deco Souza, 11-Derlei Silva, 77-Benni McCarthy.

MONACO: 30-Flavio Roma; 4-Hugo Ibarra, 27-Julien Rodriguez, 19-Sebastien Squillaci, 3-Patrice Evra, 32-Gael Givet, 7-Lucas Bernardi, 14-Edouard Cisse, 8-Ludovic Giuly; 10-Fernando Morientes, 25-Jerome Rothen.

Referee: Kim Milton Nielsen (Denmark).

Smith toys with Tigers

FROM PAGE 13

Test match. They batted pretty well but I thought we stuck to our task. But the glaring area again and the disappointment was losing three wickets for four runs in five overs before tea when we batted," said Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore after the match.

Whatmore felt the key to countering the expected four-pronged pace attack of the West Indies was seeing out the initial burst from the likes of Tino Best and Fidel Edwards and he was planning to get that message through to his boys.

"We have to get used to the pace. We have to wait for the ball to get a little older and the opening fast men to tire after seven or eight overs maximum. We have to wither the storm. The batsmen have to do that. In our case what we will do is to have individual one-to-one interviews on Wednesday," said Whatmore.

SCORECARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the third and final day of the three-day tour match between Bangladesh and the West Indies Cricket Board XI at the National Cricket Stadium in Grenada on Monday:

WICB XI: First innings 320 for 5 dec in 93 overs (Joseph 115, Bravo 100; Enamul 2-83).

BANGLADESH: First innings (overnight 124 for 4 in 46 overs)

Hannan c Baugh b Lawson	1
Javed c Baugh b Collymore	0
Rajin c Banks b Collymore	0
Ashrafulc Dwayne b Lawson	73
Faisal lbw b Mohammed	43
Kapali b Banks	19
Mashud c Dwayne b Banks	5
Tapash c Baugh b Lawson	0
Alamgir b Banks	5
Tareq b Banks	1
Enamul not out	6
Extras: (b-4, nb-4)	8
Total: (All out in 64.5 overs)	161

Fall of wkts: 1-0, 2-0, 3-4, 4-79, 5-137, 6-143, 7-145, 8-150, 9-150, 10-161.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Lawson	17	6	42	3
Collymore	8	3	19	2
Rampaul	7	4	23	0
Banks	16.5	4	42	4
Bravo	5	2	7	0
Mohammed	11	3	24	1

WICB XI: Second innings

Hinds c Enamul b Tapash	4
Devon c Mashud b Tapash	0
Dwayne not out	103
Banks c & b Alamgir	11
Baugh b Tareq	11
Mohammed b Enamul	4
Bravo not out	21
Extras: (b-4, lb-1, nb-4)	9
Total: (For 5 wkts 25 overs)	163

Did not bat: Joseph, Rampaul, Lawson, Collymore.

Fall of wkts: 1-4, 2-4, 3-42, 4-78, 5-107.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tapash	4	1	18	2
Tareq	6	1	40	1
Alamgir	5	0	47	1
Enamul	6	0	39	1
Kapali	3	0	11	0
Ashraful	1	0	3	0

Result: Match drawn.

Toss: West Indies Cricket Board XI

Umpires: T Birbal and GT Johnson

Bhola enter

FROM PAGE 13

Parvez made it 2-0 in the 37th minute.

Enamul pulled one back for Naogaon but defender Pradip Kumar Montu, adjudged man-of-the-match, made the game safe for Narayanganj nine minutes from time.

Naogaon, who bowed out without collecting any points from the final round, lost 3-2 to star-studded Dhaka University in their last match.

Holders Noakhali and Dhaka will meet in today's Group A decider while Bangladesh Army and Chittagong will fight it out in Group C for a place in the semis.

Hussain's heroic

FROM PAGE 13

been nice to have put up an extra 60 runs for them to chase.

"They outplayed us in the middle order and their reverse swing bowling stopped us scoring and picked up wickets."

However Fleming vowed that they would fight back in the next test at Headingley on June 3.

Hussain and Thorpe, England's two most-experienced batsmen, put on an unbroken stand of 139 after 27-year-old Strauss, on his home ground, had been run out for 83 following his first innings 112.

Hussain went to his 14th Test hundred with successive fours off Chris Martin before a single off the seamer gave England victory.

In all Hussain faced 204 balls in nearly five hours including 15 fours.

England's successful chase was only the third time in history that a side had scored more than 200 to win a Lord's Test.

In 1965 England, needing 216, made 218 for three against New Zealand and in 1984 West Indies posted 344 for one after being set 342.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close on the fifth and final day of the first Test between England and New Zealand at Lord's here Monday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 386 (Richardson 93, Cairns 82, Oram 67, Astle 64; Harmison 4-126, Jones 3-82)

ENGLAND: First innings 441 (Strauss 112, Trescothick 86, Flintoff 63; Martin 3-94)

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings 336 (Richardson 101, McCullum 96; Harmison 4-76, Giles 3-87)

England: Second innings (overnight 8-0)

Trescothick c and b Tuffey	2
Strauss run out	83
Butcher c Fleming b Martin	6
Hussain not out	103
Thorpe not out	51
Extras: (b-7, lb-12, w-5, nb-13)	37
Total: (For 3 wkts in 87 overs)	282

Fall of wkts: 1-18, 2-35, 3-143.

Did not bat: Flintoff, G Jones, Giles, S Jones, Hoggard, Harmison.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Oram	15	4	39	0
Tuffey	10	3	32	1
Vettori	25	5	53	0
Martin	18	2	75	1
Styris	13	5	37	0
Cairns	6	0	27	0

Result: England won by 7 wkts.

Man-of-the-match: Andrew Strauss.

Series: England lead three-match series 1-0.

Next match: Second Test, Headingley, June 3.

Blue means everything

UEFA Euro 2004 PORTUGAL

REUTERS, *Milan*

With his permanent scowl, frequent refusal to celebrate goals and constant frustration at his team Inter Milan's limitations, Christian Vieri does not appear to be a man who enjoys his club football.

It is a different story though when he pulls on the blue shirt for Italy.

With Francesco Totti to provide the ammunition and a choice of Alessandro Del Piero or Filippo Inzaghi as partner, Vieri has everything he needs.

After the finest display of the combination of skill and power that Totti and Vieri have produced together -- in the Euro 2004 qualification win over Finland in Sicily last year -- Vieri described their performance as like "two lads playing in the park".

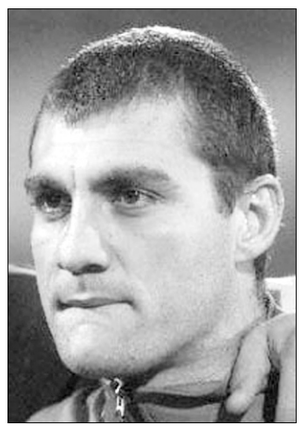
Born in Bologna but raised in Australia, and the son of a former Serie A striker, Vieri likes the game to be kept simple.

Off the field he tires of talk of tactics and barely conceals his contempt for the Italian media.

In action he relishes the basics being right -- an accurate cross to his head or a ball over the top to chase.

Nonetheless Vieri's seven years as an Italy international, like his five seasons with Inter, have yet to deliver a trophy despite his excellent scoring record.

In 39 appearances for his country Vieri has scored 22 goals, an impressive average at the highest level.



CHRISTIAN VIERI

Since scoring on his debut in a 3-0 win over Moldova in March 1997, Vieri has been the first-choice striker for Italy although his relatively low number of appearances reflects his frequent injury problems.

He made a huge impression in the World Cup in France in 1998, scoring five goals in as many games before Italy went out on penalties to the hosts and eventual winners at the quarterfinal stage.

Injury robbed him of a chance of a repeat showing at Euro 2000 and his international career has been hampered by constant fitness, usually muscle, problems since.

At the World Cup in South Korea and Japan he scored both goals in the opening 2-0 win over Ecuador but the moment from that tournament that will stick in the memory was his close-range miss in the second-round defeat to the Koreans.

Vieri will reach his 31st birthday during the finals and so this could be his last chance to win a tournament with Italy.

Inter are Vieri's 10th club after a nomadic career which has seen him feature for Juventus, Lazio and Atletico Madrid before moving to the San Siro in the summer of 1999.

Unusually for any top sportsman in Europe, never mind an Italian soccer striker, he says his all-time sporting hero is the former Australian cricketer Allan Border.

Vieri still has strong family links to Australia. His younger brother Max, born while their father Roberto was playing and coaching in Sydney, has just fought his way into Australia's senior soccer squad.

In time, Max is expected to win an international cap for the Socceroos, completing a rare family double of two brothers representing different countries.

Carlos coming to Chelsea?

BBC ONLINE, *undated*

Real Madrid defender Roberto Carlos is set to join Chelsea for 20 million pounds, according to the Spanish club's director of football Jorge Valdano.

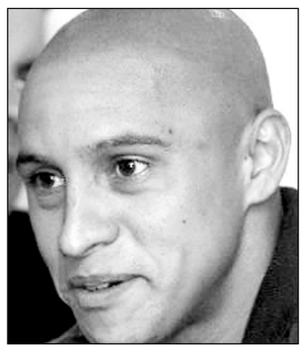
The 31-year-old is reportedly set to sign a deal which will see his wages double to 120,000 pounds per week.

"We're waiting for a fax from Chelsea confirming they will pay the 20 million pound fee in order to complete the deal," Valdano told Spanish daily sports paper AS.

Carlos, however, has been sending out mixed messages about his future.

He was quoted by BBC Radio Brazil as saying that he was about to leave but after Madrid's 4-1 defeat by Real Sociedad he seemed to change his mind.

"I want to stay at Real Madrid and



ROBERTO CARLOS

I think my situation will be sorted out in the next 20 days," he said.

"I am certain I will be here next season. I need a rest now, because I have had a lot of years playing a lot of games.

"I will go home to Brazil on Tuesday, my lawyer will call the club and he will sort things out."

Carlos was part of a Madrid side that has just completed a dismal season.

They lost their last five matches of the campaign to finish fourth which led to the dismissal of Carlos Queiroz.

Smith almost United's

Football

BBC ONLINE, *London*

Alan Smith is being tipped to complete a seven-million-pound transfer from Leeds to Manchester United on Wednesday.

Leeds had earlier dismissed claims that a deal had already been agreed to sell the striker to their rivals.

But the transfer, which could see Danny Pugh head the other way, is expected to be announced to the Stock Exchange once Smith has completed a medical.

Leeds rejected bids of 3.5 million pounds and 5.5 million pounds from United last week and were waiting for United to match their valuation.

Everton had made a seven-million-pound bid for Smith, while Newcastle and Middlesbrough were also thought to be interested.

But Smith is thought to want a move to United, with the prospect of Champions League football to look forward to.

Sir Alex Ferguson already has Ruud van Nistelrooy and Louis Saha as first-choice strikers with the likes of Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and David Bellion capable of operating up front.

Smith would give United's manager more options in that department, with the bonus that he can also play in midfield.

However, his arrival in Manchester might also cast a shadow over Van Nistelrooy's future, with Real Madrid constantly linked with a 40-million-pound move for the Dutchman.

Federer Express gets going

French Open

AFP, *Paris*

Top men's seed Roger Federer ended his Roland Garros jinx as US sisters Venus and Serena Williams served notice of their French Open intentions by advancing into the second round of the Grand Slam tournament here on Tuesday with straight sets wins.

Federer beat Belgian newcomer Kristof Vliegen 6-1, 6-2, 6-1 to win his first match on the red clay here here since 2001.

And despite lingering doubts about their fitness, 2002 French Open champion Serena, the second seed, defeated Iveta Benesova of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-2 in 66min as older sister Venus, the fourth seed, simultaneously beat Thailand's Tamarine Tanasugarn 6-2, 6-4 in 1hr 11min.

Serena, who returned from eight months off after knee surgery in March, looked in form despite dropping her serve once in the second set before serving out for the match to love against her 51st-ranked opponent.

Venus, the 2002 runner-up, had been in doubt for the tournament after a left ankle problem forced her to default the German Open final, but she never looked worried by her 55th-ranked Thai opponent depite losing her serve four times including her opening service game.

Serena next meets Russian Maria Kirilenko as Venus takes on Croatia's Jelena Kostanic.

Earlier Wimbledon and Australian Open champion Federer dismissed his 110th-ranked lucky loser opponent in just 1hr 16min.

The Swiss, widely considered the finest player of the current generation, has suffered first round defeats on the slow, red clay of Roland Garros in the last two years.

Bidding to better his previous best, a quarter-final appearance in 2001, Federer next meets Germany's Nicolas Kiefer whom he trails 2-3 in their previous meetings but whom he has never played on clay.

Last year's surprise runner-up Martin Verkerk of the Netherlands, seeded 19, won his opening match 7-5, 6-3, 6-1 against France's Julien Boutter.

The big-hitting Dutchman demonstrated how at home he felt at Roland Garros, slamming down 11 aces on his way to victory over wildcard Boutter.

"It feels like home a little bit," said 25-year-old Verkerk. "It's nice to be back in Paris and I'm enjoying it. If you're a finalist it's never nice to lose in the first round."

German seventh seed Rainer Schuettler was knocked out by Belgium's Xavier Maillse 6-4, 7-5, 6-4.

Former women's champion Mary Pierce, the 30th seed, had little problem dispatching Luxembourg's Claudine Schaul 6-2, 6-3 in 74min on the Philippe Chatrier Centre Court.

20-20 coming to Pakistan

CRICINFO, *undated*

Twenty20 fever has spread to the subcontinent. After England launched a successful inaugural Twenty20 campaign, South Africa followed suit, and now Pakistan have decided to institute a similar domestic competition when their season kicks off in August this year.

A senior official of the Pakistan Cricket Board confirmed that such plans were afoot and added that every effort would be made to ensure that star players participated in the event.

"As yet we have not decided on the format of the competition but we are thinking on the lines of restricting it to regional teams," said the official.

It was also decided that these matches would be played under lights.

2nd eves' soccer camp on

SPORTS REPORTER

Most of the 30 female footballers who are part of the second batch in a camp organised by Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), are looking forward to switching their careers.

Under the directive of Asian Football Confederation, the BFF has launched its women's training programme and the second camp was inaugurated at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

It was the first step by the BFF in almost three decades to introduce women's football in the country.

However, an attempt to organise a few exhibition matches last year was postponed after some regrettable incidents involving a team from across the border.

Reefat upsets

FROM PAGE 13

Bangladesh GM Ziaur Rahman improved his slot to share the second position with compatriot IM Abdullah Al Rakib.They are still one point adrift of Nguyen.

Zia beat IM Enamul Hossain Rajib while Rakib once again dropped points when he drew with India's Sandipan Chanda.

In the other matches, GM Niaz Murshed beat Krishna Thapa of Nepal, Indian IM Dinesh Kumar Sharma beat Abdul Maleq.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Barbecue treat
4 Cilium
8 Thin
12 Green, in a sense
13 Wheeling's river
14 Pop choice
15 Evergreen growth
17 Unattractive
18 Skirmish
19 Cosmetic item
20 Dexterity
22 Plumbing problem
24 Take on
25 Hum on the line
29 Buy now, pay later
30 "GWTW" surname
31 Cover
32 Turkey part
34 Rank crossing
35 "The Music Man" locale
36 Perk (up)
37 Condition
40 Catnap
41 St. Louis landmark
42 Skydiver's target
46 DNA component
47 Staffer
48 PC maker
49 Palmist, perhaps
50 Suitable
51 Part of UNLV

DOWN

1 Ten-percenter (Abbr.)
2 "— on parle francais"
3 Conflagrations at celebrations
4 Stopping everywhere
5 "Hi, sailor!"
6 Sermon subject
7 Weeding tool
8 Make a bust
9 Trademark symbol
10 Afflictions
11 "The Say Hey Kid"
16 — Stanley Gardner
19 Arizona river
20 Third place at Pimlico
21 New Zealand bird
22 Early Paul Anka hit
23 Exceptional
25 Arab lateener
26 Cruet fill
27 Cleo's river
28 Paradise
30 Reed instrument
33 On the near side
34 Effervescence
36 Bounded along easily
37 Reacts to gravity
38 Genealogy chart
39 Dermatology case
40 Old fogy
42 Mr. Hammarskjold
43 1983 Duran Duran song
44 Cagers' org.
45 Type units

Solution time: 25 mins.

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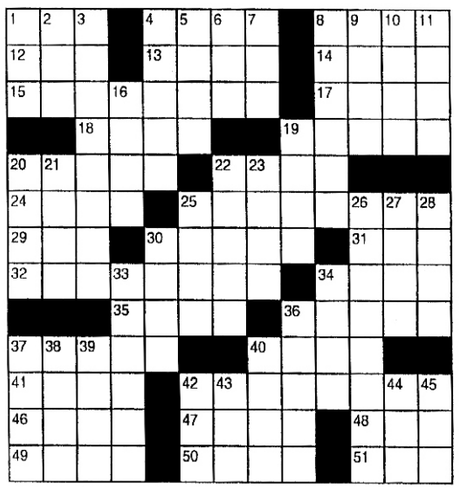
S	H	O	E	B	O	T	T	O	M			
		O	V	E	N		E	X	E	M	P	T
J	O	K	E		G	Y	M		A	I	R	Y
E	V	E	N		S	O	P		O	R	O	P
T	A	R	T		T	U	T		E	A	S	E



CRYPTOQUIP

F A L B Z G A R D A S W D M H Z S B H M Z S W T A W U A G B X M D , R I R U T D F A W A A I A W B X B S W G L B K A K B S D A H .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMEONE REALLY LIKES TO STUDY SHARKS, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD CALL HIM A FINATIC.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals N

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.