School v'ball

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Nizamuddin High School blanked Dakhin Kamarjani High School 3-0 sets in the inaugural match of the school volleyball tournament at the Gaibandha Stadium yesterday.

A total of ten teams participate in the tournament.

Meanwhike, Salim Smrity Sangsad defeated Madhapara Krira Chakra by four wickets in the Second Division Cricket League at Gaibandha Stadium yesterday.

Rebel UK tour?

BBC ONLINE, London

Zimbabwe's 15 rebel cricketers are trying to stage a tour of social matches across Britain to finance

their considerable legal bills. They were given the idea by David Folb, chairman of Lashings, the Kent-based celebrity cricket

Folb told BBC Sport: "I'm trying to formulate a Zimbabwe Exiles side to get them playing once again.

"I'm absolutely speechless that the authorities are otherwise going to lose a great cricketing side.'

Batsman Grant Flower told Australian newspaper The Age: "There are quite a few logistics to sort out. But it is a possibility because the guys have got some good marketability in England at the moment."

The cricketers walked out over a selection dispute sparked by the sacking of captain Heath Streak. After almost two months of rowing, the players themselves were axed last week

Streak looms as the man most likely to lead the proposed travelling

Batty equals

FROM PAGE 13

outfielder is seven, held jointly by Surrey's Micky Stewart against Northamptonshire at Northampton in 1957 and Tony Brown for Gloucestershire against Nottinghamshire in 1966

Most wicketkeeping catches in a first-class innings

8 Wally Grout, Queensland v Western Australia at Brisbane, 1959-60

8 David East, Essex v Somerset at Taunton, 1985 8 Steve Marsh, Kent v Middlesex

at Lord's, 1991

8 Jon Batty, Surrey v Kent at The Oval, 2004

Army march

doubled the margin after nineteen minutes, won the man-of-the match award for the third consecutive game in the final round.

His strike partner Rashedul Sonny put the result beyond doubt netting the third goal in the 79th minute

Noakhali with top marksmen like Alfaz Ahmed and veteran Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib apart from playmakers Arman and Rakib but they failed to raise their game against a very disciplined side.

Schools kabadi

FROM PAGE 13

In the day's other match Brahmanchiron Govt. Primary School overwhelmed Islami Adarsha High School 91-42.

Earlier, six teams -- Ansar & VDP School, Maniknagar Government Primary School, Dolairpar High School, Nawabpur High School, JB Memorial Academy and Hydar Ali High School -- confirmed their quarterfinal berths.

The four quarterfinals will be held on May 31 and both semifinals on June 1. The final is billed for June 3.

ZZ waits for D Day



AFP, La Grande Motte (France)

France star Zinedine Zidane is in a hurry to play England in what he calls a D Day match in the Euro 2004 championships in Portugal on June 13.

The FIFA World Player of the Year is keen to throw off the disappointment of a calamitous end of season with Real Madrid and he sees the England match as the ideal way of starting afresh.

"It's good we start with England, it means you have to be on top of the job from the kick-off," he said at the France training camp.

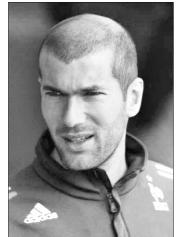
"When you start with an easy match it sometimes means you are not fully concentrated. We know we have to win this match, we have to be ready for D Day."

He said Real's run of defeats had been hard to accept.

"I hate losing but we seemed to get into a spiral. It became a psychological problem. We couldn't stop thinking we might lose," he said. Five league defeats in a row

the quarter-finals, finished without a trophy for the first time in five years. They finished fourth in the Liga and have to qualify for next season's

meant Real, knocked out of the Champions League by Monaco in



ZINDEDINE ZIDANE

Champions League in August. "So I'm in a hurry to start Euro 2004, get my teeth into something new, and that goes for all of us here."

He promised that France were keen to make amends for their disastrous 2002 World Cup when the 1998 winners could draw only one match -- 0-0 with Uruguay -- and lost to Senegal and Denmark to go home without scoring a goal.

"We don't want to rake over old ground but we know what we have to do -- be ready for D Day. "We've got some world-class

players, someone like Robert Pires. and we're a compact block." Zidane missed the first two

a thigh strain and Pires was unable to go to the tournament because of France, the 2000 European champions, can count on Pires, Thierry Henry, Patrick Vieira and

Sylvain Wiltord from English cham-

matches in the 2002 World Cup with

pions Arsenal. The strike force for a friendly work-out against Andorra at nearby Montpellier on Friday was made up of Henry, Manchester United's Louis Saha and Juventus' David

Trezeguet. Juventus fullback Lilian Thuram was moved to partner Chelsea's William Gallas in the centre of defence to make up for injured captain Marcel Desailly

Keane inspires Ireland

Football

Roy Keane's return to the Ireland national team was capped by a morale-boosting 1-0 victory over Romania here on Thursday.

The Manchester United midfielder, who only played after passing a late fitness test, lasted the full 90 minutes and was still on the pitch when Matt Holland volleyed in the winner five minutes from the It was a highly creditable victory

for the Irish against a team that beat Germany 5-1 only last month. Keane performed with his cus-

tomary drive and discipline in his first match for his country since walking out on the national squad before the 2002 World Cup finals in Japan following a bust-up with then manager Mick McCarthy. The 32-year-old had retired from

international football but was persuaded to return to the fold by new manager Brian Kerr earlier this year. After winning his 59th cap on set on leading Ireland to the World

Estonia 1-0 with a 76th minute strike



Ireland's Roy Keane (L) runs with the ball on his international return in a friendly against Romania in Dublin on Thursday.

Ferrero falls too



Stricken Spaniard Juan Carlos Ferrero joined fellow defending champion Justine Henin-Hardenne on the French Open scrapheap on Thursday as the second Grand Slam event of the season was hit by another shockwave.

Ferrero, whose participation in the tournament had been in doubt because of wrist and rib injuries, lost his second round match 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 to tournament debutant Igor Andreev of Russia.

"I couldn't play my best tennis. I wasn't good physically and wasn't arriving at the ball at the right time," said 24-year-old Ferrero. "I was hitting the ball too late and

I couldn't push hard enough. My ribs felt alright, but then I started having cramps in my left leg which made it so difficult to stay in the match.

"When you are defending a title you have to be 100 per cent. But I don't regret my decision to play."

follows those of sixth seed Andre Agassi and second seed Andy Roddick and gave 20-year-old Andreev a third round clash against

the tournament as early as the the same stage in 2000, Kuerten whose defence of his 1997 crown was ended the following year by Marat Safin and the 1972 winner Andres Gimeno who was beaten by Guillermo Vilas in 1973.

In the women's event. American title favourites Serena and Venus Williams and Jennifer Capriati all won through to the third round.

as did 2000 winner Mary Pierce of the third round

champion, had to come back from a set down to beat 17-year-old

CRYPTOQUIP

LVQAB EVPGU VDWFE

UZWFPX PQJG ZWNNQPB

GJGA VLEGA Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU THINK A VERY GUNG-HO GOLFER WOULD HAVE THAT FAIRWAY LOOK IN HIS EYES? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals F

Maradona set move to Brazil

AFP, Buenos Aires

Football legend Diego Maradona, who is undergoing drug rehabilitation therapy in Argentina, is set to go to Brazil in the next few days to continue his treatment, medical sources told AFP on Thursday.

The 43-year-old, in a psychiatric hospital in the western suburbs of Buenos Aires since May 9, is set to be transferred to Sao Paulo but will be accompanied by his current medical team.

The same sources believed he would make the move sometime from Saturday to Monday.

The decision for the transfer was taken during a meeting including family and friends of the 1986 World Cup winning captain and medical

Maradona, who came close to death last month with heart and lung problems, has been fighting a welldocumented cocaine problem since

Giuly out

AFP, Monaco

Monaco playmaker Ludovic Giuly has pulled out of France's Euro 2004 squad with a torn groin mus-

He was injured in Wednesday's European Champions League final defeat to Porto. The French medical staff said he

would be out for six weeks. Giuly was not a first-team choice for the defending European cham-

Butragueno to replace Valdano

REUTERS, Madrid

Former player Emilio Butragueno will succeed Jorge Valdano as the sporting director of Real Madrid, club president Florentino Perez said on Friday. Valdano said on Thursday that

he would be stepping down with effect from June 11. the date on which the club has called an extraordinary general meeting of its members to lay out the schedule for the presidential election in July. "Emilio will take over the job,"

Onda Cero. "He and (new coach Jose Antonio) Camacho will be responsible for planning next sea-"That is the case for the moment but as for the future we will have to

Perez told Spanish radio station

see what happens in the elections." Butragueno, who has become a symbol of the Real Madrid team that

won five consecutive league titles between 1986 and 1990, has been Valdano's deputy for the last four years. He played alongside Camacho

who took over as coach at the start of the week after the dismissal of Carlos Queiroz.

'I'm not after any

FROM PAGE 13

Q: Are you looking at the Tests against Bangladesh stretching till the fourth or fifth day or do you plan to get a result earlier than that?

Russian Maria Kirilenko winning 6-

4. 2-6, 6-4 and she next faces

ble to defeat qualifier Kveta

Peschke of the Czech Republic 7-5,

6-3 and now faces Russian 25th

Williams eased past Croatia's

Jelena Kostanic 6-3, 6-3 while

Pierce saw off Spain's Gala Leon

Capriati survived an early wob-

Croatia's Silviia Talaja.

seed Elena Bovina

BL: We'll go out there to play Test cricket session by session. At the end of the day, we want to come out with a victory and as long as it comes, we are very happy. We are not going to put a time frame on when we are supposed to win a Test. We will try to get on top and try to take control as much as possible

Q: You have reached your landmarks against tough oppositions. Now facing Bangladesh, do you feel that something bigger might come?

BL: No. When you are playing team sport, it doesn't boil down to what one or two individuals can do. I've seen a lot of good teams beat a lot of good individuals and we are going to be very guarded against a situation like this. I'm not after any personal or individual milestone.

Q: Will the 400 in your last Test nnings play on the back of your mind when you go out to bat tomor-

BL: No. Each innings starts at zero. I've got to go out there and lay a foundation for my team and whatever I get out of it would be great. But most importantly the same way I've gone about building an innings, I'm gonna go and do that. I don't think the 400 in my last Test innings is going to play a major part in what happens tomorrow or any time I go out to bat in the mid-

Q: You have only Pedro Collins among the five pace bowlers in your 13 who is above the age of 25. How do you look at this influx of

BL: I think it is a great opportunity for them in this two-Test series to make inroads into their careers. into West Indies cricket. I'm almost sure that these youngsters are already happy for this opportunity Leading such a team is great. The enthusiasm is there, everyone is looking forward to it. That makes

my job a lot easier. What I'd like to see over the next 10 days of international cricket is guys coming forward and giving a good account of themselves because they are here to gain experience and winning is a successful experience.

Q: You have an awesome fan base in Bangladesh and this is something people there want to know. Has life changed for you after the 400? BL: Yes, slightly but I'm a lot more

prepared for it now than I was ten ears ago. I'm much matured and I'm handling it in a better manner. The situation is different.

Q: How is your injured finger? BL: It's still not a hundred per cent. But taking the break from the one-day series, where you are a lot more active in the field and a lot more questions asked when you are fielding in a one-dayer, has helped the situation a lot. But fielding in the slips will be very difficult for me at least for another two to three weeks.

Henman

FROM PAGE 13

"I played solid tennis today. It's not easy to face a player from your own country but I was full of joy at the end," said Sharapova, who is seeded 18 here.

"I have just beaten a top ten player, so I am very confident especially after today. "This is a big breakthrough for me. I lost to her in Memphis this year

and she is a great player.

"But I know I will have to try harder and play better in my next match.' Sharapova, who made the fourth

Russian Nadia Petrova 6-3, 6-2.

round at Wimbledon last year and won tour titles in Tokyo and Quebec, faces Germany's Marlene Weingartner for a place in the quarterfinals. observed before the start of Sunday's Weingartner, the world 94, made

game in Tunis and at all Italian league games at the weekend. the fourth round by beating last year's semifinalist, eighth-seed

Vintage Ballack

Football

REUTERS/AFP, Berlin

Germany's 7-0 thrashing of modest Malta might not be that relevant but Michael Ballack's great show certainly was.

The nation's Euro 2004 hopes rest heavily on the Bayern Munich midfielder, who strongly suggested with four goals and fine playmaking throughout Thursday's friendly that he could peak just at the right time.

The elegant 27-year-old has been criticised for below-par performances for Bayern this season. Former Germany midfielder Guenter Netzer even compared him to Andreas Moeller, regarded as the greatest German under-achiever of the past 15 years.

Even Netzer, now a television commentator, was lost for words after Ballack's classy display on the Freiburg pitch.

Ballack," Netzer said during his match commentary. "What he's doing is perfect." Not since Gerd Mueller, in a 5-1

"This time there is absolutely

nothing negative to say about

win over Switzerland in 1972, had a Germany player scored four in an international. Ballack opened the scoring with a left-footed shot on the quarter hour mark. The Malta defence afforded

him am ocean of space, something

he is unlikely to get in Portugal, and

made the same mistake two min-

utes later when Ballack headed in a Philipp Lahm cross. Further goals from Jens Nowotny and Torsten Frings saw Germany, captained by Liverpool's Dietmar Hamann, coasting through the second period carving chance

Fredi Bobic should have had a



MICHAEL BALLACK

hat-trick, instead settling for a late goal, but it was Ballack who grabbed that honour scrambling the ball into the net in the 59th minute.

A fourth goal followed for Ballack after Malta had their goalkeeper sent off for a challenge on Miroslav

Ballack, who was instrumental in Germany's run to the 2002 World Cup final, had a frustrating season with Bayern but he never let Germany down, scoring decisive goals in their qualifying campaign for Euro 2004.

"I am ever so pleased for him," Germany coach Rudi Voeller, who has stood by his playmaker, said.

Not only did Ballack prove a point but he also helped Germany restore pride after a traumatic 5-1 defeat by Romania in their previous friendly outing last month in Bucharest. "The first game after such a

heavy defeat is always important,"

said Ballack. "We played with a lot of

a dedication. Scoring seven goals is

by failing to win a title this season. would be able to resist if Barcelona were to make a tempting offer. Ballack's immediate concern is

player go," said Beckenbauer.

Ballack's own future remains

unclear. He has been hurt by

unkind comments from Bayern

officials and Barcelona have

Felix Magath says he counts on

Ballack and club president Franz

Beckenbauer believes it would be

a pity if the gifted East German-

"Normally you don't let such a

The question is whether

Bavern, who missed out on millions

not his next club but Euro 2004 in

However, new Bayern coach

expressed an interest in him.

born player should leave.

Portugal, which starts on June 12. The three-times world and European champions, drawn with the Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Latvia in a tough group D. will soon be tested against opposition a lot tougher

Juve go for Capello

always an achievement."

Football

after chance.

Juventus surprised the punters on Friday by naming former AC Milan European Cup winning boss Fabio Capello as their new coach on Friday to succeed Marcello Lippi.

Wednesday's Champions League final, had been a favourite to take Capello, 57, had been coach at AS Roma from 1999, leading them to the 2001 title, and coached AC Milan to three successive Italian

league titles as well as the 1994 European Cup. He also had one year at Real Madrid. He had been linked with a

move to an English club. Juventus finished third in the Italian championship last season,

behind champions Milan and Roma, and lost the Italian Cup final to Capello's first job will be to work

Former Juventus player Didier Deschamps, who guided Monaco to

FABIO CAPELLO

out a new deal for disgruntled France star David Trezeguet. He had a year left on his contract

> club's massive financial problems which forced them to sell Argentina defender Walter Samuel 25 million euros (30 million dollars) last week to Real Madrid. Roma, whose debts are believed to be more than 200 million euros.

at Roma but was unhappy with the

Brazilian midfielder Emerson as they attempt to ease their crippling financial problems. Rome-born Claudio Ranieri, expected to be paid off by English Premiership side Chelsea next

week, could be a favourite to take

are also expected to offload

over at Roma. "Fabio Capello has signed a three-year contract," said a

Juventus spokeswoman. Lippi, who guided Juve to last season's Serie A title, decided last

month it was time to take a break

Ancelotti relieved

Football

AFP, Hong Kong

AC Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti expressed relief here Friday at star striker Andrei Shevchenko's decision to resist the overtures of bigspending Chelsea.

Ancelotti, in Hong Kong with the Serie A champions for an exhibition match on Sunday, said the Ukrainian hitman was wise not to swap Stamford Bridge for the San "He's a great player and AC

Milan are a great team. A great

player should stay with a great

team," said Ancelotti, after Shevchenko agreed a new fiveyear deal that runs until 2009. Ancelotti also brushed off reports that other members of his

squad might be targeted by English Chelsea have been linked to Alessandro Nesta while Premiership champions Arsenal are said to be interested in Milan's

Brazilian international Kaka. Milan vice-president Adriano

reportedly met in Italy this week But Ancelotti said he had no knowledge of a meeting. "I don't know anything about it," he said. "I

AC Milan will be missing their contingent of Italian internationals for their match on Sunday but will still field a team including legendary defenders Paolo Maldini, Alessandro Costacurta as well as



AC Milan's Andrei Shevchenko listens while attending a press conference in Hong Kong yesterday.

Italy to honour Agnelli

Football

REUTERS, Milan

Italy will wear black armbands in their friendly match with Tunisia on Sunday to mourn the death of Fiat chairman and honorary president of Serie A club Juventus Umberto Agnelli Agnelli, who was also president of

the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) from 1959 to 1961, died late on Thursday of cancer at the age of The Italian news agency ANSA said a minute's silence would be

The FIGC has also asked the organisers of the European under-21

championship in Germany to allow a minute's silence before Italy's match against Serbia and Montenegro on Italy coach Giovanni Trapattoni,

at Juventus, said he was saddened by the loss. "I had great respect for him. I recall Umberto Agnelli as a great sporting

who worked under the Agnelli family

director and a very great business leader," he told ANSA. Agnelli's elder brother Gianni, who was more actively involved in the family's sports interests, such as Juventus and Formula One team Ferrari, died, also of cancer, in

January 2003 at the age of 81. Umberto Agnelli had a spell in charge of Juventus between 1956 and 1962, a time of rich success for the Turin team, and returned to a role in the club's management in 1994

immediately affect the ownership of Juventus, which is controlled by the Agnelli family's holding company Ifil with a stake of more than 60 percent in the club. Conte parts

His death is not expected to

Juventus AFP, Turin

Former Italy international Antonio Conte has decided to leave Juventus, the player himself said during a press conference here on Wednesday.

The 35-year-old defensive midfielder arrived at Juventus in November 1991 from Lecce, with whom he had made his professional debut in 1986.

26 Pet, for 5 Overly not theatrical 42 Average 5 Hatteras, 9 Witnessed 27 Judge 12 Malaria 43 Atlantic e.g. 6 "I cannot 28 Addition symptom **13** Jai tell ---" 14 Ms. 7 Chap 29 Assess whole Thurman enchilada 8 Stabs 31 Badge 15 A real 9 Corn and wearer

memo

50 Modern-

sharpie? 17 "Friends' cast member 18 Football injury 19 Stallone

1 High-

21 Filched 24 Reverberate 25 Possess 26 Highly rated. perhaps 30 --water 31 Partners

32 Carte lead-in 33 Please, i Cadiz 35 Attention

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer **ACROSS** 37 Western 2 Past 23 Flood or 3 Mongrel floor resort lake 38 Massage 4 Yell, 24 inces speed number targets "You're santly 40 Sunrise 49 Promptly, 34 Retainer lima

> down control day coin 51 Aries 11 Cerareview 52 Places 37 Seesaw ceous quorum 16 French 53 Carey or 38 Ópen a 20 Surprise 39 Caffeine reactions DOWN 21 Send 1 Treasure 22 Mexican 40 6/6/44 41 Venomous Solution time: 21 mins

beans

10 Beyond

vipers 44 "Born in the -45 Plant prickle 46 "All the Things You

35 Gave a

thumbs

The Cryptoguip 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. 47 "Hey!

Ferrero becomes only the fourth defending men's champion to exit second round following 1999 winner Agassi who lost to Karol Kucera at

In the women's draw, 2001 champion Capriati made it through

France and fourth seed Venus Williams who will face each other in Serena Williams, the 2002

LAWYU, Q YFGUU GJGABDWXB