Chosen the game's outstanding

player, Adriano said he felt better on

Sunday at the low altitude of Piura,

Peru, than in the thin air of the

Andes, where Brazil played in the

"In the beginning we couldn't catch our breath," he said. "Here,

dreams of playing on Brazil's "A"

team, which will assemble when the

qualifying games for the 2006 World

"I think I could play on the main squad with Ronaldo, Ronaldinho

Gaucho and all those established

on how well Brazil fares against old

nemesis Uruguay and a possible

final against Colombia or archrival

The win Sunday was especially satisfying for Brazil, which hadn't

normally reserved Parreira. "Brazil

criticized Brazil after last week's 2-1

loss to Paraguay, had nothing but

praise for the team -- and especially

"The name of the game," said the

"Emperor Adriano," headlined

was superior from start to finish."

"It was very convincing," said a

Brazil's sporting press, which

Adriano's chances could depend

Cup resume in September.

players," he said last week.

beaten Mexico since 1999.

Still, he doesn't deny that he

first round.

we're looser."

Argentina.

Rio daily O Dia.



MAN-OF-THE-MATCH: Goalkeeper of Bagerhat's Unmochan Club Piaruzzaman Piru (L) thwarts a Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra attack during their Nitol-Tafa National Football League encounter at the Momenshahi Stadium yesterday.

Premier kabadi

UNB, Dhaka

Holders Bangladesh Rifles registered a massive 66-17 victory over Azad Sporting Club with four creditable lonas in the opening match of the 9th Premier Division Kabadi League at the Outer Stadium kabadi court vesterday.

In the day's other match, Bangladesh Army also recorded an overwhelming 57-18 win over Jatrabari Faruq Smriti Sangsad with three lonas.

Tibet h'ball

UNB, Dhaka

Satirtha Club defeated Suryadoy KC 23-17 in the opening match of the Tibet 13th First Division Handball League at the Outer Stadium handball ground yesterday.

Satirtha trailed 11-9 in the first Badsha scored seven goals while

Faruq netted five for the winners. Rafiq and Shamim scored 11 and three goals for the losers. Rafiq was adjudged best player

of the match. State Minister for Forest and Environment Zafrul Islam Chowdhury inaugurated the league.



Tick the correct answers, post to

The Daily Star Win attractive prizes

July 23, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. How many Test matches will India play against Bangladesh in

Three Two Four

2. Who is Pakistan's new cricket

Miandad Woolmer Marsh

3. Who won the Rating chess title? Rajib Rakib Reefat 4. Who is the youngest scorer at

Rooney Vonlanthen Ronaldo

5. Who scored the first goal at Euro Zidane Karagounis Figo

Name Class. Roll No.

Phone: (If any)

Fischer seeks asylum

Chess legend Bobby Fischer, wanted by US authorities and facing deportation from Japan, is seeking offers of political asylum from a third country, according to a Website attributed to a

held in Montengero.

He was arrested in Japan earlier this month and has been held while authorities decide whether to extraditehim to the United States.

"He urgently requests an immediate offer of political asylum from a friendly third country," Miyoko Watai, the head of the Japan Chess Association and a personal friend of Fischer, said on a Website she set up in

want to return to the United States, which she described as "Jewcontrolled" saying he would face "a kangaroo court and 10 years in Federal prison and a likely early demise or worse on trumped up political

hostile brutal and corrupt UScontrolled Japan," the message said.

prison if he is found guilty of breaking the sanctions over his controversial rematch with Boris Spassky in Montenegro.

Nat'l age-group

was another new national record in the boys' (15-17 age group) 100metre freestyle. 59 teams are competing in 100 August 7

events at the three-day meet that ends on July 22.

Russel pass

FROM PAGE 13

Biplob, Narayan, Burdeep Mohammed, Kamal Hossain, Minto, Asif Yusuf, Asadaur Rahman, Maruf Ahmed, Younnes, Azam, Jamal Uddin, Miksudul Alam, Nurul Islam, Tofazzol, Apu, Sharif,

UNMOCHAN CLUB (from): Piru, Biplob Ghosh, Ashraful Karim, Nafiur Rahman, Hafizur Rahman, Emrul, Kollol Ghosh, Mithu, Moses, Liton, Khaled, Nazmal Hasan, Mohsin, Mamunur Rashid, Benoi Krishna and Ruman. Referee: Mansoor Azad.

that the chess legend was still under-

The official said the authorities

Washington had requested Fischer's

Known for his strong character,

Fischer was a symbol in the United

BOBBY FISCHER

States of the Cold War-era struggle

against communism, battling it out

with the greatest Soviet chess champi-

genius broke 24 years of Soviet domi-

In 1972, in Helsinki, the American

After a nearly 20-year break, he

The match, that earned him more

than three million dollars, was held in

Montenegro, in the former Yugoslavia,

despite a UN embargo in effect at the

going deportation proceedings.

Chess

were still examining the case and that Fischer would not necessarily be Cases are often settled in days, but the process can drag on for weeks. A US embassy spokeswoman declined to comment on whether

Fischer has been wanted since the early 1990s for breaking a UN embargo imposed on the former Yugoslavia over the Bosnian war when he scooped more than three million dollars in prize money from a match

The statement said Fischer did not

"Nor does he wish to remain in a

nance by defeating Boris Spassky, and Fischer faces up to 10 years in tookhomeaworldchampionship. jumped back into chess with a "revenge match" against Spassky in 1992.

Immigration officials said Tuesday

FROM PAGE 13 Open TT from

UNB, Dhaka

ZJWUNNHP

VDSPH WUVH, J ZKHPP JC'P

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE YEARLY SEWING CONTEST, I WAS ON

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O 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 localing vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

OHVT UOE OHVT

JOQSDQHE JO

The first-ever Sharp Blade Open table tennis tournament will begin on August 7 at the Wooden Floor Gymnasium adjacent to Bangaban-

dhu National Stadium. The three-day tournament will have five events men's group and singles, women's group & singles and Boy's group & singles.

Only the under-18 participants will be eligible to take part in both the boys events of the meet, organized by Bangladesh Table Tennis Khelwar Samiti and sponsored by Sharp Blade.

The interested club and players have been asked to send their entries to Ripon Khan at Wooden Floor Gymnasium by August 3 at 7

confused? AFP, London

Maradona Jr

Diego Maradona Junior looks to have destroyed his chances of engineering a move to Scottish Premier League side Dunfermline.

The 17-year-old son of the Argentinian World Cup legend had been training with the unfashionable club hoping to secure a transfer from Napoli, but having agreed to an extended trial at East End Park, he has since flown back to Italy.

"When things like this happen, it's looking less likely. First he was going, then he said he was staying but on Saturday we learned he did go home," said Dunfermline boss David Hav.

"I will now sit down with the chairman and hopefully reach a decision. It's not the boy who is making this decision, it's his advis-

"Diego is a 17-year-old with ability that has still to be fulfilled. But I would say it now looks less likely to happen with us. We'll see."

The 'fair' dozen

BBC ONLINE, undated

announced

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has named the first dozen members of the awards panel which will vote on cricket's "Oscars" in

September. The 50-panel will vote on the world's best players over the previ-

Members announced on Monday include former England captain Mike Atherton and Indian legend Sunil Gavaskar. ICC chief executive Malcolm

Speed said: "With an esteemed judging academy we know the process will result in worthy win-Seven player-related awards will be

presented in two award categories (individual and team) at the gala ceremony to take place on September 7 at Alexandra Palace in **PANEL MEMBERS**

Michael Atherton, England Martin Crowe, New Zealand Kapil Dev, India Sunil Gavaskar, India Ian Healy, Australia Michael Holding, West Indies David Houghton, Zimbabwe

Graeme Pollock, South Africa Barry Richards, South Africa Sidath Wettimuny, Sri Lanka Rajan Bala, Asian Age, India Tony Cozier, media commentator,

India hockey coach sacked

BBC ONLINE, undated

as India's hockey coach just weeks before the Olympic Games in

He was immediately replaced by his deputy, German Gerhard Rach. The Indian team have fared poorly in 2004, failing to win any tournament since their Afro-Asian Games triumph over Pakistan on home soil last year.

Inzy wants

FROM PAGE 13 part of the Australian tour last season before skipping two Tests in Pakistan.

The famed Indian batting also failed to live up its reputation in the first two matches, with Rahul Dravid alone looking in good touch with a hundred and a half-century.

"We still have an opportunity," Ganguly said. "The points system is such that we start all over again and hence we will have the chance to make amends."

Sri Lanka are hopeful that capain Marvan Atapattu and hardhitting opener Sanath Jayasuriya will be fit for the super-league

Jayasuriya missed the last match against India due to a side strain, while Atapattu left the field after compiling a half-century due to a sore throat. "We hope Sanath will be fit," the

captain said. "We want him in the side as soon as possible. We have many options when he plays."

A good headache to have



AP, Rio de Janeiro

Striker Adriano has become a solution and a problem for Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira in the Copa

After another gala performance by the Inter Milan forward in a 4-0 rout of Mexico on Sunday, how to pull Adriano from the lineup when the tournament ends?

His rivals for a starting berth theoretically are untouchables. Ronaldo and Ronaldinho Gaucho are soccer's elite, stars of the Spanish league and World Cup champions in 2002.

But Parreira rested his starters and took a team of second-stringers and young promises to the Copa America. And Adriano has been a bigreason for Brazil's success so far.

On Sunday, Adriano scored two goals and set up the other two as Brazil cruised past Mexico and into the semifinals against Uruguay on Wednesday.

Adriano leads all scorers with five goals. Big and rangy, he already he is earning comparisons with Ronaldo, who led all scorers when Brazil won the Copa in 1999.

Kuwait too

AFP, Beijing

good for UAE

But the 22-year-old striker plays down the parallels.

"Every player has his own history, and I have a lot of work to do," he

said in an interview on Monday on Pele's Web site pele.net. "First, I have to run to help the team."



Adriano (L) and coach Carlos Alberto Parreira during a practice session

A quick-fire treble from local rivals Kuwait sank the UAE 3-1 on Monday despite a battling second-half performance which threatened to get them backinto the Asian Cup opener.

The Emirates, trailing 3-0 at the break after a Basher Abdullah strike, a penalty and an own goal within 20 minutes, peppered the Kuwaiti goalmouth in the second half but could not add to Mohamed Rashid's 47th-minute score.

The result condemns the UAE to the bottom of Group B after Monday's opening games which also saw South Korea held to a draw by

Japan edge Oman

Holders Japan overcame the loss of several star players through injury and the upcoming Olympics to open their Asian Cup campaign with a 1-0 victory over Oman here Tuesday.

The defending champions, missing several star Europe-based players including captain Hidetoshi Nakata, midfielder Junichi inamoto and playmaker Shinji Ono, secured the points thanks to a superb first-half goal from Shunsuke Nakamura.

Japan had taken the lead on 34 minutes when a cross from Brazilianborn left-back Alex deflected off a defender and into the path of Nakamura.

The attacking midfielder collected and beat one opponent before arrow ing a shot off the outside of his left foot into the top corner from 13 yards.

Brazil know

FROM PAGE 13 where they experimented with a risky attacking approach under former coach Juan Ramon Carrasco.

> team have returned to their traditional style of tactical discipline and gamesmanship.
> "I think the secret is for us to try to hold up the ball and keep possession.

Since Jorge Fossati took over, the

We must not let ourselves play at Uruguay's pace," said striker Adriano, who scored two second-half goals against Mexico to take his tally to five in the tournament. Defender Gustavo Nery said that

despite Brazil's strong performance against Mexico, the team had yet to prove itself at the Copa America, especially after their surprise defeat against Paraguay in the group stage.
"We haven't conquered anyone yet.

Really, we are just starting to get going,

Brazil lost 2-1 to 10-man Paraguay, ground out a 1-0 win over Chile and struggled to shine despite the scoreline in a 4-1 win against Costa Rica.

The new Henry?

Football

Didier Drogba can be a new Thierry Henry for Chelsea, says former Chelsea defender and France 1998 World Cup winner Frank Leboeuf. Leboeuf spotted Drogba in the

French league in 2002 and is sure the Ivory Coast international will be as big a hit at Stamford Bridge as Henry has been for champions Arsenal. Drogba joined Chelsea on

Monday for a club-record fee of 24.5

million pounds. "There will be a big competition between him and Henry to be the Premiership top-scorer and biggest entertainer," Leboeuf told The Sun

Leboeuf remembers being impressed when he first saw Drogba play for minnows Guingamp at "I was injured and watching in

the stands and I thought I was

watching Henry out on the pitch. I

DIDIER DROGBA

the pace of Thierry and he plays with a smile like Thierry."

Chelsea beat Iuventus for Drogba, 26, who joined Marseille from Guingamp for 3.3 million pounds last year.

Drogba's move smashes the Premiership transfer record for a striker. The previous highest was the 19 million pounds Manchester United paid PSV Eindhoven for thought he runs like Thierry, he has Rund van Nistelrooy two years ago.

Critics point out that Chelsea paid a total of 32.6 million pounds for Hernan Crespo and Adrian Mutu last season, and saw the pair score just 22 goals between them. Chelsea have also agreed a further 8 million pounds for Benfica

midfielder Tiago to take owner

Roman Abramovich's summer

spending to 70 million pounds with

Serbian striker Mateja Kezman,

Portuguese defender Paulo Ferreira, Dutch winger Arjen Robben and Czech goalkeeperPetrCech. Drogba is the most expensive player in Abramovichs 190 million pound Chelsea collection, gathered over just 13 months. He shatters the 17 million pound record set by Damien Duff and

Mutulastyear. Chelsea initially offered 18.7 million pounds for Drogba but Abramovich was forced to raise the stakes to get Drogba on board before the team fly to the USA tomorrow for their pre-season

Drogba, who scored 29 goals for Marseille last season, is a direct replacement for Argentine flop Crespo, farmed out on a years loan to AC Milan.

Troussier shown the door

the Qatar Football Association (QFA)

that my services as head coach for



Qatar coach Philippe Troussier was left stunned here Tuesday after being sacked following his team's disastrous start to their Asian Cup

The experienced Frenchman, who saw Qatar crash to a shock 2-1 Group A defeat against Indonesia on Sunday, was told he had been fired for last weekend announcing he

planned to step down as coach after "I was informed this morning by

> the national team of Qatar are no longer needed for the rest of the competition," Troussier told a press conference. "I am bitterly disappointed and really surprised because I never thought I would stop at this stage of

the competition after all the work I have put in for the Asian Cup." Troussier said comments last Saturday -- where he told Arabic

broadcast media that he would

resign following the tournament -had been misinterpreted. But he had later confirmed his plans to quit after Sunday's defeat.

sion because I think it has been taken because of a misinterpretation of my words which concerned only what comes after the Asian Cup," he said. Saeed Al-Mesned will now be in charge for Qatar's second game against Bahrain on Wednesday, a

game the Gulf team must win to

have any realistic chance of pro-

at the same time I regret this deci-

"I respect the QFA's decision but

JOB VACANCY



gressing to the quarter-finals.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is a high profile cricket organization responsible for governing the game. In keeping with its international standing the BCB is professionalize

National Grounds and Facilities Manager.

its administration and is therefore looking to fill the following positions: No. of Position: 1

No. of Position: 6

This is a high profile responsible position. The incumbent will report to the CEO. The candidate should have the following qualifications:

The candidate should hold an MBA from a reputable university and have a strong background in commercial, financial, personnel and administration

He should have a minimum of five years experience in a managerial position in a reputable national/international organization(s).

The candidate should have project management ability.

co-ordinate, multitask and provide reports on a regular basis.

2. Venue Manager.

The candidate will report to the National Grounds and Facilities Manager and should have the following qualifications:

He should have a minimum of three years experience in managerial position in

The candidate should be a graduate from a reputable university with strong background in commercial, financial, personnel and administration fields.

a reputable national/International organization(s). The candidate must be skilled in using MS Office in windows Platform, his knowledge of cricket would be an added advantage and he should have the ability to plan in advance,

The Venue Managers will be posted to stadiums in Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Bogra, Fatullah & Dhaka. A local candidate resident in the city of the stadium would be an advantage however the right candidate would not be excluded.

The interested candidates are requested to send their CVs along with 2 recent photographs to the Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh Cricket Board, Management Office (5th floor) 45 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212 on or before 30th July 2004. Only the short listed candidates will be called for an interview.

FROM PAGE 13

"Those matches were played on

He also talked a lot about his

"A couple of shots I needed to practice, because he is the best bowler and that night, he was turning the ball sharply. To be fair, it's difficult to play him on these wickets because they suit him. You got to make different plans for him. I have

(527) with Shane Warne, is a less lethal without his 'doosra' (wrong 'un), Yuvraj was prompt to quash it.

The crisis man

We have shown that we can score big totals and its just about clicking altogether in the next matches. Hopefully runs will start to flow

today.

"Not at all. He has got the same.

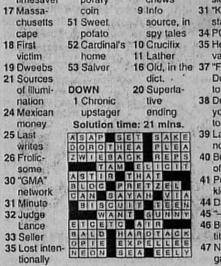
against Bangladesh tomorrow." The popular cricketer from Punjab also warned that his brief appearance in Dhaka during the Corporate Cricket League a couple of months ago, where he failed to fire, would not have any bearing

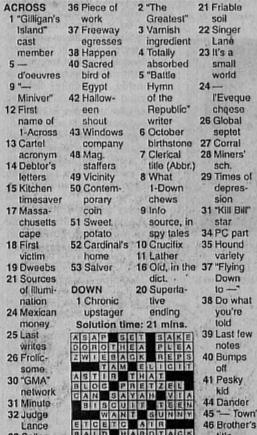
different types of wickets and I had hardly played any cricket after coming back from Pakistan. But I think Bangladesh can't be taken lightly. They have done very well in the West Indies and we will have to do our best tomorrow to win the

battle with champion Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan.

to make my adjustments." When asked whether the great Sri Lankan off-spinner, joint world record holder of highest Test wickets

kind of turn. May be the difference would be around 97 to 100 per cent but he is quite the same bowler.





CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer