Keegan fined

Manchester City manager Kevin Keegan has been fined 8,500 pounds

for insulting referee Steve Dunn after his side's Premier League

defeat at Newcastle United last

on Friday that the former England

striker had been found guilty of

"abusive and/or insulting words

Keegan's tirade came after City

lost 4-3 on October 24. He was furi-

ous over several decisions immedi-

ately after the match but later said

he would apologise in writing to

David Beckham is targetting next

weekend for his Real Madrid come-

back, a move that will put him in line

to captain England in their friendly

in the Spanish capital on November

Beckham has been out of action

He now claims to be making a

"I'm aiming to play against

good recovery and has targeted

Real's November 14 clash with

Albacete, which is on the Sunday

before England's friendly in Spain

on the Wednesday," said Beckham.

He admitted he had been frus-

trated sitting on the sidelines as his

England team-mate Michael Owen

has sparked an upturn in Real's

for a couple of weeks, getting the rest

in but after that it is so frustrating.

My broken ribs have prevented me

from going to the gym; I can't run, I

and tried running, but for the last two or three days I've not been able

to move. I just want to get playing

again. But we'll have to see how it

Mozart fails

"A couple of days ago I felt great

"It's an injury that you can enjoy

since breaking a rib in England's World Cup qualifier against Wales at

Old Trafford last month.

Albacete for his comeback.

The Football Association ruled

REUTERS, London

and/or behaviour".

Dunn for his language.

the mend

INTERNET REPORT, London

Beckham on

Peterson replaces replacement

CRICINFO, undated

Two days after Charl Langeveldt was called up as a replacement for South Africa's two-Test tour of India after Nicky Boje declined to go, he has pulled out injured and been replaced himself. Robin Peterson, the slow left-armer from the Warriors, will fill the vacant spot.

Langeveldt, 29, suffered a back injury during a long bowling stint for the Highveld Lions against Western Province-Boland -- for whom Graeme Smith scored a doublecentury -- at the weekend.

Shane Jabaar, South Africa's physiotherapist, confirmed that Langeveldt would not be able to tour: "He has an irritated left sacroiliac joint and a facet-joint sprain on the left side of his lower back. He will need about two to three weeks' rest and rehabilitation before he can bowl again."

Peterson, 25, was unlucky not to have been called up as a like-for-like replacement in the first place after Boje decided he did not wish to face possible further questioning by the Delhi police over the match-fixing allegations that surfaced on South Africa's last tour there, in 1999-2000.

Semifinal lineup

FROM PAGE 13 take on Acme in the second semi-final on the same day.

SCORES IN BRIEF CITYCELL: 134 for 8 in 20 overs (Hasannuzzaman 34, Dhiman 34,

AKTEL: 123 all out in 19.1 overs (Harunur Rashid 39, Nabil 3-16) Result: CityCell won by 11 runs. ROBINTEX: 104 for 9 in 20 overs (Naimur 40, Bashar 27, Shafaq 2-8)

ARAF: 105 for 8 in 19.1 overs (Nayeem 23, Hasibul 2-28, Naimur Result: Arafwon by 2 wickets.

BIMAN: 121 for 8 in 20 overs (Rashedul 38, Sajjad 38, Razzak 4-22) GRAMEENPHONE: 122 for 5 in 20 overs (Tushar 32 not out, Shahriar 26, Mashrafee 25, Mosharaf 3-19, Aminul 2-16)

Result: GrameenPhone won by 5 EPYLLION: 115 for 5 in 20 overs (Kamrul 25, Shaheen 24, Murad 2-

GAZI TANK: 118 for 7 in 19.5 overs (Wasel 33, Sumon Barua 30, Gazi Alamgir 2-12)

Result: Gazi Tank won by 3 wickets. PARTEX: 144 for 7 in 20 overs (Sumon Das 43, Shakil 32, Tareq 25, Nadif 2-20, Shuvo 2-23)

BEXIMCO: 146 for 2 in 18.4 overs (Sajjad 66 not out, Akram 48 not out, Shamsul 1-18)

Result: Beximco won by 8 wickets. ACME: 123 for 8 in 20 overs (Nasiruddin 39, Taz 2-18) ISPAHANI: 95 all out in 18 overs

(Emon 32, Ripon 3-11) Result: Acme won by 28 runs.

Stand up and bat

FROM PAGE 13

None of us are happy with our batting in last two games. We did things the way we wanted in the two Tests but our one-day performance, especially top order is unsatisfactory," said Bracewell.

He said that they would not take the final match lightly.

"Our mission is not over because tomorrow's match is very important for us. We had a disciplined performance in the Test series but failed to keep it up in the one-dayers. I told the boys to bring back the discipline in the last match before the important Australia series," said the 46year-old former New Zealand offbreak bowler.

He however praised Bangladesh's bowling especially in

"I think Bangladeshi bowlers did an excellent job defending a modest total," said Bracewell, who highly praised the brilliant bowling of Aftab

ZCU scuttles Streak again

Cricket

CRICINFO, Harare

Hopes that the Zimbabwe Cricket Union was serious that it was willing to accept the return of the rebel players appeared to be dashed with the response of the board to news that Heath Streak was helping out Matabeleland in an unpaid capacity.

Streak, a former Matabeleland captain, had accepted an invitation to help Pommie Mbangwa, their bowling coach, on a voluntary basis. But as soon as ZCU officials became aware of the situation, they demanded that Streak withdraw. They were probably further irked by the excellent reception Streak received from spectators of all colours when he was spotted on the ground at Bulawayo.

Peter Chingoka, the ZCU's chairman, has been at the forefront of

Matabeleland had acted inappro-priately and that the Logan Cup, Zimbabwe's domestic first-class



HEATH STREAK

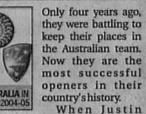
competition, depended "on adherence to appointments within existing structures otherwise one risks those making conciliatory coming structures otherwise one risks ments. But he claimed that having those who should benefit not being in place at the right time.

provincial coaches were wellstructured and done in consultation with the national team coach and national selectors," Chingoka told the government-controlled Herald newspaper. "Streak's involvement was irregular as it did not go through this process. The protocol was breached and the person who made the ad hoc appointment has since apologised to the Union for the breach. Because of the irregularity, we did ask Heath not to be involved but he was not replaced by Phil Simmons." Coincidently, Chingoka added that the ZCU was about to appoint an assistant coach to

The ZCU's action is unlikely to do anything to smooth the way to a settlement, nor is Zimbabwe cricket is a position that it can afford to shut

out players of Streak's calibre. ZCU officials were not available

A durable partnership



Langer swept Harbhajan Singh to the Wankhede Stadium fence in Australia's second over on Thursday afternoon, Matthew Hayden walked up the pitch to shake his hand. Australia were only 0-10 but it was a significant moment. The two left-handers, paired at

the top of the order in 2001, had contributed more Test runs than any other Australian opening pair, going past Mark Taylor and Michael Slater's old record. Langer and Hayden needed just

nine runs together to pass Taylor and Slater on 3887, and while they did it a little less than gloriously -making only a 17-run partnership before Langer was out -- their record is superior. Taylor and Slater shared 78 part-

nerships, through which their average stand was 51, while Langer and Hayden have had 66 at an average of

"It's amazing, isn't it?" Langer "It's an amazing thing how it's all

happened. Hayden said over dinner on Wednesday that three or four years ago, who would ever have dreamed we'd be in this position now. We couldn't have dreamed of it but nowit's happened."

The two close friends have

enjoyed a stunning turnaround in himself in the 2000-01 home series against the West Indies, Hayden

Thilanga Sumathipala, the former

president of the Sri Lankan board,

has reportedly acted as a mediator

and brokered a truce between

Marvan Atapattu, Sri Lanka's cap-

tain, and Asantha de Mel, Sri Lanka's

controversial selection chief, after

their angry public dispute during

the Pakistan tour, according to the

De Mel, a former fast bowler,

incensed Atapattu when he publicly

criticised the team management

Daily Mirror newspaper.

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

While his star rose on the subsequent Indian tour, Langer's spiralled downwards. He averaged 32 in India but was dropped for the first Test of the Ashes series in England a few

Langer, however, gained another chance because of the still worse downturn of Michael Slater and opened with Hayden for the first time in the fifth Test at The Oval. After their first three of hours of batting together, Australia were 0-158. Their record includes six douin the top three. As we've proven, it's probably another one of the ridiculous theories there are in cricket."

There are still more targets for which to strive. The openingpartnership aggregate of West Indians Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes stands at 6482 runs, seemingly untouchable con-sidering Hayden has just turned 33 and Langer is 34 this month.

Hayden and Langer sit third overall, but they can engage in a



MATTHEW HAYDEN (L) AND JUSTIN LANGER

ble-century stands - two more than their nearest rivals.

Sumathipala brokers truce

and senior players for being "self-ish" and undermining the selectors'

attempts to blood young players.

The rift deepened when Tillakaratne

Dilshan was surprisingly axed from

the Test team despite averaging 36

since his return to Test cricket last

down in communication between

the two, forcing Sumathipala a key

powerbroker in the Sri Lanka cricket

scene, who has returned to the

limelight having started to emerge

from the humiliation of an immigra-

tion scandal to intervene and

Sumathipala met with de Mel on

organise a face-to-face meeting.

The spat led to a complete break-

You don't really have statistics in the back of your mind, but as we've achieved 100-partnership records and 200-partnership records it's always a nice little feather in the cap," said Langer. "We know we work well together and it's just a nice reward for the

Still trying to establish time we put into the partnership. In 1993, I missed out on the Ashes. Hayden got selected and the reason the selectors gave me was that they

battle for second with their contemporaries from Sri Lanka, Sanath Jayasuriya and Marvan Atapattu, who have 4159.

"Greenidge and Haynes -- when I was a kid they were the absolute ultimate. I don't know how many runs we are behind those guys, probably a few thousand, but who knows what could happen," Langer

"But just the very fact that you're mentioned with those two guys is

dope test

REUTERS, Milan

Brazilian midfielder Mozart, who plays with Serie A club Reggina, and five players from Italian Serie B teams have been suspended after failing doping tests.

All six players have tested positive for the banned substance Betamethasone in random doping controls carried out after games in early October, the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) said on Friday.

Mozart tested positive at a control carried out after the October 3 Serie A game against AC Milan.

PwC ratings

FROM PAGE 13 fifth overall, while Jason Gillespie closed the gap after some fine performances in the Tests.

RANKINGS Batsman

Points

	The state of the s	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE
I	Lara	845
	Hayden	837
	Kallis	807
	Sehwag	800
	Inzamam	785
	Ponting	778
	Martyn	775
	Gibbs	764
	Sangakkara	752
	Bowler	Points
	Harmison	875
	Pollock	854
	Muralitharan	850
	Shoaib	828
	McGrath	811
	Gillespie	793
	Kumble	773
	Warne	741
	Vaas	687
	Ntini	674

Jadhav, the two openers recently picked in the Indian Test squad, have been included, as has Sadagopan Ramesh, the Test discard. MS Dhoni, Dinesh Karthik's main competitor for a place in the

side, and the squad also included India discards Hemang Badani, Dinesh Mongia, Ramesh Powar and Amit Bhandari. The talented batsman from Andhra Pradesh, Venugo-pal Rao, has also been

Kanpur (Nov 20-24) and Calcutta (Nov 28-Dec 2) after the tour-

SQUADS

INDIA (from): Virender Sehwag, Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly (capt), VVS Laxman, Rahul Dravid, Yuvraj Singh, Dinesh Karthik (wk), Irfan Pathan, Harbhajan Singh, Anil Kumble, Zaheer Khan, Ajit Agarkar, Mohammad Kaif, Ashish Nehra, Sridharan Sriram.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI (from):

Gautam Gambhir, Dheeraj Jadhav, Sadagoppan Ramesh, Hemang Badani, Venugopal Rao, Dinesh Mongia, Sairaj Bahutule (capt), Ramesh Powar, Shib Shankar Paul, Amit Bhandari, MS Dhoni (wk) Suresh Raina, Avishkar Salvi Joginder Sharma.

Pathan's absence

not play to expectation," he said, noting that neither batsmen nor bowlers played to their capabilities.

To a question on Sachin Tendulkar's fitness, he said: "I don't see why he cannot go on. It depends on mental strength.

game negatively as it puts tremendous pressure on players and leads to more injuries. "The standard of cricket is not

the same as it was in 1980s. Bowling world class bowler," he said.

Santini steps down

Football

REUTERS, London

Jacques Santini has quit as manager of Tottenham Hotspur after just 13 games in charge.

A Spurs statement on Friday said the former France manager is returning to France for "personal reasons

Martin Jol, Santini's assistant at White Hart Lane, will take charge of the first team for the home match against Charlton Athletic on

"My time at Tottenham has been memorable and it is with deep regret that I take my leave, "Santini said. "Private issues in my personal life

have arisen which caused my deci-

"I have therefore requested to return to France. I very much hope that the wonderful fans will respect my decision. I should like to thank Frank Arnesen and (chairman) Daniel Levy for their understanding. I wish the club and the supporters all the best for the season."

Arnesen, the club's sporting director, said the club respected Santini's decision.

"We are obviously disappointed that Jacques is leaving us," he said. "We fully respect his decision. I can assure you that the club will act swiftly to minimise the impact of Jacques' departure.
"Our priority is to ensure that this

season's performance remains unaffected by this move. I shall make a further statement on Monday clarifying our position. We wish Jacques well.

Tottenham announced that Santini would be their new coach in June and the 53-year-old arrived at White Hart Lane after his French side slipped out of Euro 2004 championship in Portugal with a disappointing quarter-final defeat by

His appointment was seen as the final piece in a new managerial structure at the under-achieving club which has been in the shadow of north London rivals Arsenal for more than a decade.

After the mediocrity of former managers Glenn Hoddle and David amongst Tottenham fans that Santini could create a team capable of closing the gap on fellow Frenchman Arsene Wenger's Arsenal.

Tottenham's starting line-up against Liverpool on the opening game of the season was barely recognisable with the likes of Cameroon international Thimothee Atouba, Sweden's Erik Edman, veteran Moroccan Nourredine Naybet and Pedro Mendes, a Champions League winner with Porto, all making their debuts.

That encouraging 1-1 draw was followed by a dogged 1-0 victory at

Pleat, there was genuine optimism the club in the bottom half of the

However the majority of the success-starved Tottenham fans were still backing Santini despite last Saturday's woeful 2-0 defeat at London rivals Fulham.

Santini built his reputation as a coach with Olympique Lyon, steering them to their first French title in

After France's humiliating exit at the 2002 World Cup finals, Santini was chosen as the man to replace sacked Roger Lemerre.

Under his command France won the Confederations Cup and qualified with a 100 percent record for the



JACQUES SANTINI

Newcastle United and after another narrow victory over Birmingham City, Tottenham were challenging at the top end of the table.

A first defeat of the season, 1-0 at home to Manchester United, was followed by a 1-0 victory at Everton, but since then the club's league

Despite boasting the second best defensive record in the Premier League, the goals dried up and three consecutive league defeats, with just one goal scored in that time, has left Euro 2004 finals.

But after Santini announced that he would be leaving to join Tottenham after the championship, France performed poorly in Portugal with Santini's defensive tactics called into question.

Those same cautious tactics have tested the patience of Tottenham fans, although with more than two thirds of the season still to go, many believed Santini would have eventually been a success in English foot-

FA too soft on Mutu

Football

REUTERS, London

The Football Association knew it would not please everybody when it delivered its verdict on Romanian striker Adrian Mutu.

The seven-month suspension imposed on the 25-year-old, sacked by his club Chelsea for his admission of cocaine use, satisfied Mutu himself, the players' union and, probably, world body FIFA which demands a six-month minimum for such offences.

For Chelsea, the World Anti-Doping Agency, the government and much of the media on Friday. however, the punishment was totally inadequate.

Chelsea chief executive Peter

Kenyon is furious and his club now face the possibility of seeing Mutu, for whom they paid almost 16 million pounds, line up against them for an opposing team next season.

"Chelsea is extremely disappointed," Kenyon said in a hardhitting official club statement.

"We believe it is far too lenient and sends out the wrong message about drugs in football. It is also indicative of a lack of direction within the FA at this time.

"As a club we can only take the action we believe is right for Chelsea. However the FA has a much wider responsibility to look after the interests of the game as a whole and in this case we believe it has shown itself to be weak over the issue of The "lack of direction" reference

is a jibe at the fact that the ruling body is still to appoint a chief executive following the resignation of Mark Palios on August 1.

"doping control matters extremely seriously". FA officials will reflect ruefully on

the fact that last year they were accused in many quarters of being too harsh on Manchester United's defender Rio Ferdinand, whom they banned for eight months for missing

They claimed this week that to ban Mutu for longer than Ferdinand would encourage players to think they would be better off missing a test like Ferdinand than taking one declared before Thursday's disci-plinary hearing that he would not

appeal against any suspension. WADA believe their recommendation of a two-year minimum should apply in all cases, whether the drug concerned is recreational or performance-enhancing. The British government agrees.

Mutu's agents are looking to the future. They claim two English clubs have already shown an interest in signing the striker and Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger was quoted and failing it like Mutu. That would last Sunday as saying he might be



ADRIAN MUTU

18, 2005.

throw their testing procedure into

However, that principle does not sit comfortably with the fact that they banned Ferdinand for less than the nine months for which another ex-Chelsea player, Australian goalkeeper Mark Bosnich, was suspended last year for cocaine use.

The FA also took into account the fact that Mutu has agreed to a rehabilitation programme and had

interested. Mutu's suspension -- he was also fined 20,000 pounds -- is backdated to October 25 and will expire on May

That is three days before the FA Cup final and seven days before the Champions League final, meaning in theory at least, he could end up playing against Chelsea for a rival team in either. The FA will be praying

Liverpool incur losses

Football

INTERNET REPORT, London

Liverpool will announce a record loss of £21.9 million at their annual general meeting next month.

And the report to shareholders shows that it cost over £10 million to pay off former manager Gerard Houllier and his staff of Phil Thompson, Joe Corrigan and Christian Damiano and players who were deemed surplus to require-

These figures underline why they decided to sell Michael Owen earlier in the season rather than allow his transfer value to shrink to nothing if he worked out his contract and left on a free transfer.

The club lost £14million because of their failure to reach the Champions League last season but

the club insist that much of this has been made up by qualification for the current campaign. The good news for Liverpool is

that they have managed to reduce their overall debt by £3.5 million, from £18.9 million to £15.4 million. Chief executive Rick Parry says:

"The key business objective for the year was to secure an immediate return to the Champions League. The board, therefore, took a conscious decision to continue to invest in the team in the summer of 2003 and to budget for a loss.

"Instead, the main financial target was to ensure there was no increase in net debt. Both these objectives were achieved.

"The loss is essentially attributable to two factors. The loss of Champions League revenue and the decision to change the management team. The loss in itself does not constrain player spending, after all

we did invest significantly in the summer.

"It is the level of debt and future cash flows that govern our transfer

activity." Despite the overall loss, Liverpool's board have still been able to sanction the signings of four new players since Rafael Benitez

arrived at the club. The sale of Emile Heskey to Birmingham enabled the club to fund their commitment to signing Djibril Cisse while the departures of Michael Owen and Danny Murphy generated the cash to secure the arrivals of Spanish quartet Xabi Alonso, Luis Garcia, Antonio Nunez and Iosemi

With the transfer window reopening in January the yearly accounts will not prevent Benitez from strengthening his squad if he deems it necessary.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 38 Rorschach 2 Words to 25 Snoop 1 Perfor-Dogg's live by 3 November mance 26 "Monty 4 The whole enchilada

assign ment 12 Expert 13 "Holy 14 Obey 15 With it, once

7 English-

class

peats, in 18 Tennyson tree

topper 22 Huge weight 23 Ganges 27 Blz-news 29 1935 Astaire/ Rogers

movie 31 Ecru 34 Grates

41 What 4 Eastern Python' potentate Hubbard's 28 Shell dog had 5 Shed 6 Release 45 Sports-7 Count need counter-31 Bing's 48 With 8 Lanka humility lead-in 52 Faraway 9 Bracketed 32 Blueprint craft 53 Florentine 17 Bivouac expert structure

55 British 56 Tendon 19 Christmas 57 Pigs' digs 21 Behind 58 Sightseer? 23 Offspring 1 Garden 24 Oohs' Solution time: 25 mins.

30 Tramcar addition 33 "- not choose to 36 Computer 37 Wasp's 40 Objectives 42 Small egg

45 What 46 Provoca-

some men are made 48 Possesses Blue?"

50 Stannum

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.

QFUV. TY'L LF WRUYS FC

SKRMA URHS

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A CATTLE RANCH IS FREE OF ALL ITS BABY COWS, WOULD YOU SAY IT'S DECALFINATED? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals R The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for

CRYPTOQUIP

WTY-FUKHNY NUFQYU RL

CRHKMMA LYYVRHN HYQ

dence and arranged a meeting for Thursday. During that meeting, the Daily Mirror says Atapattu had explained how "certain [recent] selection decisions could undermine his status as captain" and made it difficult to win the full confidence of his players. A third meeting was arranged on

Wednesday at his private resi-

Friday, to which Duleep Mendis, the board's chief executive, also attended. The meeting apparently also touched on other issues, including the vice-captaincy, currently held by Mahela Jayawardene, which de Mel's committee are ir favour of handing to Chaminda Vaas. Atapattu, though, was given an opportunity to provide his input or

Ganguly ready

Test side, will be the wicketkeeper. Sairaj Bahutule will captain the

South Africa play two Tests at

FROM PAGE 13

Khan, who successfully led Pakistani team for years before retiring at his prime, said the surfeit of one-day cricket had affected the

standard has particularly come down. We hardly seen any genuine