

Frustrating day for Ganguly

PTI, London

Sourav Ganguly struggled to find form and was out for a duck as Glamorgan suffered a seven-wicket loss to Gloucestershire in the Twenty20 Cup Championship at Bristol on Friday.

Ganguly, who came to open the innings with Australian Matthew Elliott, lasted only single delivery from C Greenidge and left Glamorgan reeling at just 5 at one stage.

Put in to bat, Glamorgan were 128 for 9 in their stipulated 20 overs but Gloucestershire reached the target in 17.1 overs losing only three wickets.

The Indian captain also bowled a single over but ended up conceding six runs.

Elsewhere, Dinesh Mongia's batting failed to fire once again and he was sent packing with only seven runs to his credit as Leicestershire lost to Derbyshire by seven wickets.

Leicestershire, for whom only H Ackerman made a significant contribution with 39 while Ian Hunter took three wickets in an impressive bowling display, made 137 in 20 overs.

Due to a brief interruption in the match, Duckworth-Lewis calculation was needed and Derbyshire easily reached their 103-run target as Luke Sutton made 42 from 32 balls.

Jones returns for England

AFP, Manchester

Glamorgan fast bowler Simon Jones rejoined England's NatWest Series squad Saturday following a week's rehabilitation on a knee injury.

Jones left the squad a week ago after complaining of a sore right knee which kept him out of England's opening game of the triangular one-day tournament against Bangladesh at The Oval on June 16.

But after working hard at the national cricket academy in Loughborough, central England, and having intensive treatment, Jones was cleared to rejoin the squad and train with them at Headingley on Saturday morning prior to Sunday's game at the Yorkshire headquarters against Bangladesh.

Hampshire seamer Chris Tremlett joined the squad in Jones's absence. He performed well in the last two matches and the selectors will make a decision on whether Tremlett remains in the squad over the weekend.

Rating chess

SPORTS REPORTER

The Greenwich University FIDE Rating Chess tournament will begin on July 5 at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall-room.

Players above 2150 rating can enrol their names before July 3 at the federation office. The tournament will be held in Swiss League basis.

Another goalless

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but Wanderers could not avail any of the couple of chances inside one minute.

Jalaluddin split the Fakirerpool defence with a low cross from the right on the hour but Wanderers striking pair Henry and Milton both failed to connect the ball which harmlessly ran across the six-yard box. A minute later, Apu dashed down the right flank but the substitute midfielder's low drive from close was saved by Fakirerpool's keeper Shiplu.

Fakirerpool's forwards tried to break the shackles with their hard working wingers sending numerous crosses but the strikers really did not threaten to score.

Wanderers stayed bottom from second with two points from two draws while Fakirerpool are just ahead with four points.

Marquez boost

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Sanchez Guerrero to a knee injury that required surgery while Marquez has not yet started a game because of a recurrence of his groin injury.

The form of the Mexicans has been remarkable, given the circumstances.

Argentina have been similarly strong, beating Tunisia and Australia and drawing 2-2 with Germany.

Juan Roman Riquelme has been the key figure, dominating midfield with his unhurried style, while Luciano Figueroa staked a claim for a World Cup place with his hat-trick in the 4-2 win over Australia.

Argentina lost 1-0 to Mexico in their last meeting in the Copa America last year.

Jose Pekerman, Argentina's coach, is confident there will be no repeat on Sunday.

"We're on the way to having a very good team," Pekerman said.

"We want to be in the final."

Argentina centre-back Walter Samuel is suspended, meaning a likely start for Gabriel Milito. Mario Santana has a hamstring injury but should be fit to keep his place in midfield.



'Three Tenors' for 2006 WC

REUTERS, Rome



The 'Three Tenors' could join up again to mark the 2006 Football World Cup in Germany, 16 years after they brought opera to the masses with their first concert at the Terme di Caracalla in Rome.

Placido Domingo, at a news conference on Friday to mark his return to the famous Roman venue, said he, Luciano Pavarotti and Jose Carreras could sing together again.

"We have difficulty finding a time when we can all be together... But it's always been linked to football -- 2006 has been mentioned, so let's

see," the maestro told a room packed with journalists close to Rome's Piazza Campidoglio.

Opera and football first teamed up in the 'Three Tenors' concert on the eve of the 1990 World Cup final at the Terme di Caracalla, the ruins of the public baths of ancient Rome.

The event was broadcast around the world and the tenors' performance of "O, Sole Mio" and "Nessun Dorma" brought opera to a new audience of millions. Sales of recordings broke classical music records.

Domingo at the time said opera and football were a winning combination because they were the most universal things in the world.

The tenors have since sung around the world, but it was thought they may never perform together again because Pavarotti has said he wants to retire.

Domingo's return to Rome marks the reopening of the Terme di Caracalla for operatic performances. The Spanish maestro will direct Giuseppe Verdi's Aida at the 7,000-seat venue in a run beginning on July 23.

The Terme di Caracalla was shut more than a decade ago due to fears that large concerts could damage the site, but Rome's head of archaeological ruins has given the go-ahead to reopening the venue for music.

Owen marries sweetheart

Football

AFP, London

England and Real Madrid striker Michael Owen on Friday married his childhood sweetheart Louise Bonsall.

Owen wed his long-term girlfriend at a private ceremony held in a hotel close to their home in north Wales, a source close to the player said.

The wedding took place amid new reports the England international might return to the Premiership.

The former Liverpool player and his fiancée had initially planned to marry at their palatial home -- Lower

Soughton Hall.

They changed their plans after being informed that if a licence is granted for a marriage ceremony the venue must be made available for other weddings for three years.

It was the same rule that forced the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall to change their wedding venue from Windsor Castle.

Owen, 25, became an international household name in the 1998 World Cup.

The couple met while pupils at Hawarden High School.

They moved into their mansion near the tiny village of Northop in 2001 and have a two-year-old daughter named Gemma Rose.



MICHAEL OWEN AND LOUISE BONSALE

Federer, Sharapova

FROM PAGE 12
his best showing at Wimbledon. He rallied and eliminated 2004 Wimbledon quarterfinalist Florian Mayer 3-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-1. Ferrero will play Federer next.

In the completion of a match suspended Friday because of rain, No. 31-seeded Mikhail Youzhny celebrated his 23rd birthday by beating Jonas Bjorkman 7-5, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6. Youzhny will next play No. 21 Fernando Gonzalez.

Russian Anastasia Myskina thinks a harrowing week of tennis at Wimbledon will be good therapy for her ailing mother back home in Moscow.

Myskina won her third wrenching match in a row Friday. She failed to convert two match points in the second set, fell behind 5-1 in the third, squandered 24 of 33 breakpoint chances and still advanced.

Seeded ninth despite a prolonged slump, Myskina beat Jelena Jankovic 6-0, 5-7, 10-8. Watching at home was her mother, who is battling a serious illness.

Last month, Myskina became the first defending champion at the French Open to be eliminated in the opening round. And she has flirted with defeat in each of her matches this week.

She won in the opening round despite losing serve nine times. In the next round, she failed to convert 12 set points in the first set, yet won again.

The big Dutchman, armed with one of the most dominating serves in tennis, upset Pete Sampras at Wimbledon nine years ago and then beat MaliVai Washington in the final. On Friday, Dementieva defeated Washington's sister, Mashona, 7-5, 6-1.

Park a Red Devil

REUTERS, Incheon

South Korea midfielder Park Ji-sung said on Saturday that he was proud to be joining Manchester United and pledged to make himself a better player at the English club.

Park spoke on his return from a medical in Britain after signing this week to join the Premier League club from PSV Eindhoven on a four-year contract.

"Personally I'm very proud of myself. I feel sorry and very grateful to coach Hiddink, but I think I can return his favour by becoming a better player in Manchester," the 24-year-old told a news conference at Incheon airport.

Park and South Korea team mate Lee Young-pyo were signed by PSV coach Guus Hiddink after the Dutchman worked with the pair at the 2002 World Cup.

Park, who helped PSV win the Dutch title and reach the Champions League semifinals last season, will become the first South Korean to play in the Premier League.

"When I wore the Manchester kit, I didn't feel it was real. But when I went to United's ground, I felt very proud that I will be playing for such a top club," he said of his visit to Old Trafford.

Park said, however, that joining United did not match the heights of South Korea's success in the 2002 World Cup.

"The joy that I felt during last World Cup finals could not be matched by anything else."

Park played a key role in co-hosts South Korea's run to the semi-finals, scoring one of the goals of the tournament to knock out Portugal.

United were anxious to secure the player's signature before next month's pre-season tour to the Far East.

Tres hails

FROM PAGE 12
Trescothick was in a similar situation himself five years ago after being drafted into the squad as a replacement for the injured Nick Knight and has never been dropped since from either the Test or one-day squads.

"I think he's a good prospect," admitted Trescothick.

"The way he bowled against Bangladesh, we all saw how he can get extra bounce. In the middle period of the innings, when the fielding restrictions are gone, he's definitely harder to hit."

"When he played against Australia, it wasn't so much a case of wanting to see him against the best team because he had already impressed us with the bounce he gets."

Trescothick is likely to discover later Saturday whether Tremlett will continue with the team during Sunday's game against Bangladesh at Headingley.

England are also due to make a decision about Jones, who has not played since impressing during the emphatic Twenty20 victory over Australia but is due to bowl at the Academy in the next day or so to try and prove his fitness.

B'DESH vs AUS

FROM PAGE 12

Mortuza	6	0	32	0
Nazmul	3	0	29	0
Rafique	6	0	53	0
Manzarul	4	0	26	0

Result: Australia won by 10 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Andrew Symonds.

Toss: Australia.

Umpires: Billy Bowden (New Zealand) and Jeremy Lloyds (England).

Eriksson lied to FA?

Football

REUTERS, London

England soccer coach Sven-Goran Eriksson was described as a "seagull" with a "roving eye" on Friday amid evidence alleging sexual harassment and lies within the Football Association (FA).

FA executive director David Davies would not confirm sugges-

tions that Eriksson had lied to him after being suspected of having an affair with secretary Faria Alam, who is suing the association for constructive unfair dismissal and sexual discrimination.

But he said at an employment tribunal in London that he had told an FA internal inquiry words to the effect that "Sven's got a roving eye. He's like a seagull and can wrap his wings around people".

Eriksson, 56, was widely

reported in the British media last year to have had an affair with Alam, who was also said to have had a relationship with then chief executive Mark Palios, 52. Palios later resigned.

Alam, 39, who also quit, had accused her boss, Davies, of sexual harassment earlier in the hearing.

Davies told the tribunal on Friday that he had been "flabbergasted" by the allegations.

"I spoke to Sven and Faria, both of whom denied there was any truth to that story," Davies said.

"When someone I know well and trust and see as a friend says to me, as she said, 'I am not having an affair', I believe them."

However, when pressed in cross-examination about his conversation with Eriksson, Davies said: "I cannot recall the details of it."

He added: "I had asked Mr Eriksson and I had satisfied myself totally that there was no affair. Whether he was lying has to be put to Mr Eriksson, not me."

Davies, 57, also denied Alam's allegations that he had harassed her and had a reputation as a sexual predator at the FA.

"She brought them up less than a week before this hearing and I was dumbfounded. I may have reputations for many things but a reputation for trying it on with women is a new accusation in my life."

"Faria's allegations are deeply hurtful and upsetting. I have read them with sadness and incredulity. I trust Faria understands the impact of them upon others than just myself. In summary they are a mixture of half-truths and fantasy."

Two former secretaries to Davies, said by Alam to have told her he "tried it on" with them, denied the allegations in written statements.

"David never 'tried it on' with me. I never told Faria that David tried it on with me or anything similar," wrote Sarah Forde.

"I would describe the relationship that I had with David as his PA as businesslike rather than social."

Kimberley Fisher added: "I would like to state that in my five years at the FA I had no complaints about David Davies in this respect. I never felt uncomfortable with him and do not feel that he ever 'tried it on' with me."

The hearing continues.



FARIA ALAM

PHOTO: REUTERS

Sorry Carlos!

Football

REUTERS, Rio de Janeiro

Brazilian soccer star Roberto Carlos was giving a radio interview on his cellular phone on Friday when he said armed robbers approached the car in which he was traveling and robbed the driver.

"They just robbed my car, they just robbed my car," said the Real Madrid leftback and Brazilian international, breaking out in nervous laughter.

Roberto Carlos was visiting the southeastern city of Belo Horizonte in Brazil when he said he was mugged.

Police were not immediately available for comment. The player was traveling with a local journalist, a girlfriend and an unarmed bodyguard. The journalist, who was driving the car, had to give up his ring and cellular phone.

Two assailants on a motorcycle stopped next to Roberto Carlos' car in dense traffic. One of them, armed with a pistol, knocked on the car window and took the driver's belongings. During the interview, the knocking could be heard and then somebody talking loudly.

Street crime is rampant in Brazil, which has one of the highest murder

rates in the world and is one of the countries with the most deaths from firearms.

After a bout of nervous laughter, Roberto Carlos told the driver: "Don't stop so close to the car in front of you. Don't stop so close."

When asked by a radio presenter to comment on the problem of violence that plagues big Brazilian cities, Roberto Carlos attributed it mainly to social woes.

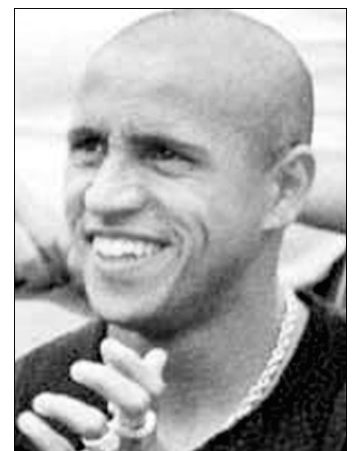
"It happens everywhere. It is a problem in our country because many people are out of work. But anyhow, I miss my country a lot and will keep coming," he said.

After talks into the early hours of Saturday morning Tottenham finally confirmed they had reached agreement "in principle" with Chelsea.

The two clubs said in a joint statement: "Tottenham Hotspur Football Club and Chelsea Football Club have announced that they have reached agreement in principle regarding Frank Arnesen.

"Formal documentation is to be signed by June 30, 2005. The terms are confidential and will not be disclosed."

The row erupted after the publication of photographs showing Arnesen relaxing on the yacht belonging to Chelsea's billionaire owner Roman Abramovich.



ROBERTO CARLOS

Now Gough wants to scare the Australians

Cricket

AFP, Chester-le-Street

England fast bowler Darren Gough has promised to haunt Australia in more ways than one after the hosts suffered their first defeat of the NatWest Series.

Few England players of recent years have thrived more on the verbal banter that accompanies matches between the two teams than Gough, England's most economical bowler during Thursday's 57-run day/night defeat here at the Riverside before hitting a career-best 46 not out off 47 balls.

During the match Gough, responding to reports that some Australia players -- notably Shane Watson -- had become spooked in their nearby 'haunted' hotel, did his best impression of a pantomime ghost when the all-rounder came out to bat.

"I'd heard he's slept on Brett Lee's floor, so when he came out to bat I told him: 'Don't worry, you

can sleep in my bed tonight," joked Gough.

"It started like that and then I gave him the ghost thing as a bit of fun, but he's a great competitor and great to play against."

Australia's win ended a run of four successive defeats and was a morale-booster ahead of the Ashes Tests, which start in July, where the tourists will be looking for a ninth successive series victory.

However, Gough, 34, stressed: "We've not read too much into the last few games played by Australia and I've always said that."

"They're still a quality side and when you've got strength in depth like they've got and play like they did against us, then they're a hard team to beat."

"We were under-par against them and didn't play as well as we can do and I didn't think the intensity was there in the field -- I think there was a feeling that we'd see how many runs they got and then chase them down, but it's not as easy as that with quality bowlers

like that and Brett Lee back in the side."

But even though England failed to complete a hat-trick of one-day wins for the first time since 1997, they did at least have the consolation of seeing last-wicket pair Gough and Stephen Harmison bat out the 50 overs.

Australia failed to hit a boundary off Gough's last four overs for her hit seven of his own in his innings.

"They came at us quite hard and there were a few words out there," Gough said. I knew they were going to come hard at the tail-enders and I just thought I would try and give as good as I got and I really enjoyed it.

"There was a fair bit of chat going on out there, but I was expecting it because we gave them a fair bit in the Twenty20 game and the first game of this competition in Bristol and when their tail-enders come in that's exactly what they're going to get -- if you're going to give it out, you've got to be able to take it as well and I think we did that."

Earlier in the innings England had collapsed to six for three but eventually recovered to a respectable 209 for nine.

"That's has got to go down as my greatest innings because I've played against quality bowlers all the way through. They didn't give me anything," Gough said.

"They bowled Lee, they bowled Glenn McGrath, they bowled Jason Gillespie and for me as a tail-end to finally knuckle down and bat like that was really pleasing for me."

Gough is set to be in action again against Bangladesh at Headingley, his home for his whole professional career until switching to Essex in 2004, on Sunday.

England are hopeful captain Michael Vaughan, who missed Thursday's defeat with a groin strain, will recover to lead the side at his home ground and he will have a fitness test on Saturday.

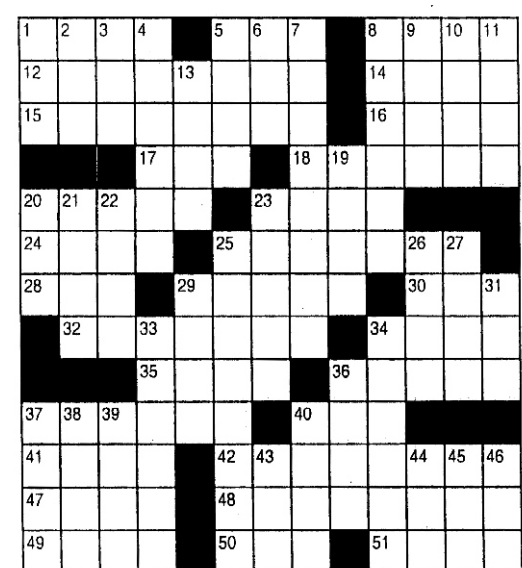
In the meantime Australia and Bangladesh meet Saturday at Old Trafford.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Hang in the balance
5 "Chicago" lyricist
8 Was philanthropic
12 Lotion additive
14 Largest continent
15 PFC's superior
16 Bring up
17 Judge Lance
18 Olympian awards
20 Take to the floor
23 Inlet
24 Settled down
25 Peiopoulos isthmus
28 Japanese money
29 Sandbar
30 Macabre monogram
32 Ithaca school
34 Do surveillance on
35 Intentions
36 River-bound shuttle
37 Papeete's island
40 A billion years
41 Not "far"
42 18th-century Spanish explorer
47 Discourteous
48 Re the U.K.'s
49 Burpee buy
50 Writer
51 Lily variety
2 "Xanadu" band, for short
3 Neither partner
4 Describe
5 Architect
6 Support system?
7 Cap named for a Scottish castle
8 Cultivation location
9 On the briny
10 Test tube down in buckets
11 Dumbo's "wings"
13 November responsibility
Solution time: 24 mins.

SWAP SORA FIG
HERE PROM EAR
OVER RAMP EGO
PEAR ALP BLOW
NEW ERE
NORMA L DONN
IDEAS DOMAIA
LESSEN SWARMY
OLE EST
JOHN GAS LING
AMT JAV A OVAL
MON ATOM CLAME
BOD GENE KNEE

19 Satan's forte
20 Rotation duration
21 A Baldwin brother
22 Boy in Barcelona
23 Loses warmth
25 Drug
26 Wardrobe malfunction
27 Barber's concern
29 Fit of peevishness
31 Thickness
33 Came down in buckets
34 Williams sisters' realm
36 Patsy
37 Sailors
38 Malaria symptom
39 Stash
40 Therefore
43 Inseparable
44 Expert
45 Ham-marskjold of U.N. fame
46 Lennon's partner



CRYPTOQUIP

FT C VRHLZB FL TZGBJ
YGFKSO ZT WCSSRHO, F
YGRLL UR ZGYUS SZ WR
VKCPRJ FB C JHO PRKK.
Saturday's Cryptquip: SINCE MY DOCTOR WAS ANNOYED WHILE DIAGNOSING ME, I'D CALL THAT A CROSS EXAMINATION.
Today's Cryptquip Clue: L equals S
The Cryptquip 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.