The Paily Star

Sport

DHAKA FRIDAY JULY 15, 2005

Gerrard too hot to handle |Vieira almost

CHAMPS LEAGUE

AFP, Liverpool

Steven Gerrard rubber-stamped his long-term commitment to Liverpool with a hat-trick as the European champions launched the defence of their Champions League crown with a comfortable 3-0 win against Welsh champions Total Network Solutions on Wednesday.

Liverpool captain Gerrard, whose on-off decision to leave the club was finally resolved by him signing a new four-year contract last Friday, netted two first-half goals and a strike one minute from fulltime to give the home side a healthy lead ahead of next Tuesday's first qualifying round second-leg.

UEFA's decision to allow Liverpool to defend the trophy that they won so remarkably against AC Milan just 49 days ago came at a price, with Rafa Benitez's team forced to enter at the first qualifying stage alongside Europe's minnows. Although Liverpool's early

appearance at this stage was a result of their failure to claim a top four finish in the Premiership last season, they were always unlikely to be troubled by whoever they were paired with in the first round and TNS, Welsh double winners last season, struggled to compete with the home side.

Ken McKenna's team may have been the dominant force in Welsh football in recent seasons, but the Llansantffraid-based outfit went into this game having never won a competitive European fixture and

that statistic was hardly likely to change at Anfield. Still, Liverpool manager Benitez,

who handed a debut to 6million pound goalkeeper Jose Reina leaving the goalkeeping hero from the final Jerzy Dudek to watch from the stands - warned his players against underestimating TNS, claiming that their lengthier preseason build-up would ensure that

they were fitter than his team. If that was the case, it did not show as Liverpool cruised into a commanding 2-0 lead by half-time courtesy of two Gerrard goals in a one-sided opening 45 minutes.

A week ago, the Liverpool captain - whose two goals opened Liverpool's account in last season's Champions League opener against Sturm Graz - was in turmoil over his future at the club, with Chelsea waiting in the wings to seal a 35million pound purchase of the England midfielder

However, having opted to commit his future to Anfield by rejecting the Premiership champions. Gerrard appeared untroubled and a man at ease as he put his team in control of the tie. The game was only eight min-

Liverpool's first goal of the season following a quick three-man movement involving John Arne Riise, Anthony Le Tallec and Fernando Morientes.

Morientes's lay-off teed up Gerrard ten yards from goal and the midfielder side-footed past goalkeeper Gerard Doherty to open the scorina

TNS struggled even to escape their own half as Liverpool continued to press forward at every opportunity and it was no surprise when Gerrard doubled the home side's lead on 21 minutes. Defender Steve Evans was

unable to clear Morientes's throughball and Gerrard dispossessed the TNS man before lofting the ball over keeper Doherty from 18 yards.

McKenna's team tightened up following Gerrard's second and Liverpool began to find the nohopers a tougher proposition as their own chances dried up.

Morientes should have extended Liverpool's lead when he headed over from six yards on 68 minutes and Gerrard, hunting a hat-trick, almost scored a stunner when he volleyed over from 30 yards moments later.

Former Real Madrid forward Morientes spurned three more golden chances before Gerrard sealed a stunning personal performance by netting his third of the game with a left-foot strike from 20 utes old when Gerrard scored vards

Juventus'

Football

officials today confirmed.

Juventus expect to sign Arsenal

captain Patrick Vieira Thursday

afternoon, one of the club's key

him," said Juve general director

Luciano Moggi. "The deal should

move for Vieira's Arsenal team-

mate Robert Pires. however, with

Moggi emphatically stating: "We

morning suggested Vieira will sign

a four-year contract after the clubs

agreed a fee of £9.6m, but Moggi

Apart from Arsenal chairman

Peter Hill-Wood admitting he had

heard of the Juventus interest in

Vieira and saying it was still his gut

feeling the bid would be turned

Football

his son go to Real Madrid.

local media

FROM PAGE 16

the run.

Madrid.

Robinho's dad

also puzzled

would not confirm these details.

Reports in the Italian press this

be completed this afternoon."

are not interested in Pires."

"We are on the verge of signing

The Bianconeri have ruled out a

LONDON

down at a board meeting next week, there has been no response from the Gunners Vieira was on the brink of joining

Real Madrid a year ago but the London club's commitment to keeping him despite a £25m-plus deal was a big factor in him changing his mind at the last moment.

This time, neither vice-chairman David Dein nor manager Arsène Wenger have publicly stated their desire to retain Vieira still has two vears to run on his contract at Highbury.

Meanwhile, the future of Vieira's Arsenal and France team-mate Pires is less clear. Pires' representative Stephane Courbis yesterday insisted that Juve want him and dismissed suggestions that Turkish side Galatasaray that were close to capturing the player.

"Right now, Juve are the only interested party," said Courbis, "we have not had contact from Galatasaray." Internet Source

Pietersen KOs Thorpe

Africa during the northern winter.

"Ultimately, we have opted for

Kevin because of the form he

showed against Australia (in the one-

day internationals), his excellent first-

class career (he averages just over

52 with 21 hundreds) record and the

energy and enthusiasm he brings to

the England dressing room," said

David Graveney, England's chair-

However, he added: "The selec-

tors do not view this decision as

marking the end of Graham Thorpe's

Marcus Trescothick, Andrew

Strauss, Michael Vaughan (cap-

tain), Ian Bell, Kevin Pietersen

Andrew Flintoff, Geraint Jones

Ashley Giles, Matthew Hoggard,

Simon Jones, Stephen Harmison,

India will play a tri-series in Sri

Lanka from July 30 to August 9

which will also feature the West

Indies. They are then scheduled to

join New Zealand and hosts

Zimbabwe for another tournament

in August-September.

cricketer.

man of selectors.

international career.

SQUAD

Chris Tremlett.

Cricket

AFP, London

Kevin Pietersen was handed his first call-up to an England Test squad here Thursday as the selectors named their 12-man party for next week's first Ashes Test at Lord's.

The South African-born Hampshire batsman averages 87 in one-day internationals and on Tuesday scored a dashing 74 against the world champions in Australia's eight-wicket win at The Oval.

Pietersen, an unorthodox batsman, came in for Surrey left-hander Graham Thorpe, at 35 10 years his senior, and a veteran of 100 Tests.

"I am delighted. I said I would be the happiest man in the UK and when I got the call it was a special feeling, Pietersen told reporters at Lord's here Thursday.

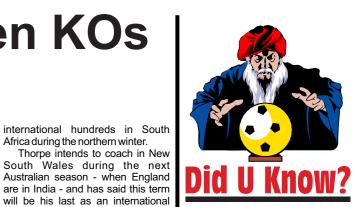
"I have big shoes to fill in Graham Thorpe, he has been a great cricketer for England and could still be." added Pietersen who scored three one-day

Scholastica best FROM PAGE 16

Digital India "They were disciplined, organised, FROM PAGE 16 they had that sense of participation at cross purposes. It is fairly simple by watching all the matches and and all the players liked it." cheering the others." Parveen said.

"The Italians said they were wellbehaved and cultured. The girls also took part in the cultural shows to present Bangladesh's heritage. I think the exposure they got and the way they earned us this recognition is more important than the result."

CROSSWORDBy Eugene ShefferACROSS44 Cabin4 Dos24 "Alley-1 "Thecompo-Passos!"Stranger"nentstrilogy25 Personalauthor46 Each5 Earningsquestion6 Sweet50 "White6 Disarray26 "I"spanishFang"7 Apportiontrouble?winewriter8 Whopper28 Ceased to12 Silk tree52 19629 Brezh-exist13 PoetJohnnev's30 " LittleWylieWaynesuccessorTeapot"14 Crittermovie10 Disco31 X rating15 Heavy54 Perstyle33 401(k)hammer55 Philip11 "Oh, myalterna-16 SalonNolanLuve istiverequestet al.like,"34 NRC17 As well56 Usurers12 Orienteer-predeces-19 Scepter57 Considersing aidsor20 Farm1 Movieobedientmorning- of2 Easterngroupco-hostyetLazarus23 Blond43 Ex-frosh27 Flaccidcomic stripshade45 Individ-29 SkewerSolution time: 27 mins.47 Conceal35 NeedySi TE E ME V Aand36 PaddockSi TE E ME V AandarrentSi TE E ME V Aand37 ForefrontSi TE E ME V Aand37 ForefrontSi Keely			
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The first one-day international (ODI) was played between traditional rivals Australia and England at Melbourne on January 5, 1971.

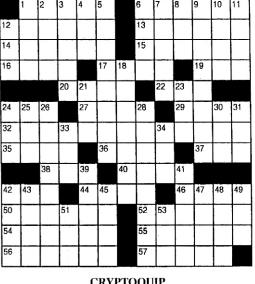




David Shepherd

(Former English cricket umpire) "I felt very flattered. But I didn't want it really. There's enough hype going on these days. Players are the stars. The game of cricket is for players not umpires.' When he was requested to offici-

ate in the Lord's Test.



CRYPTOQUIP ΗQΥ DHDECCV QT E Q YECC FLEQP GLJTJUJP Q SCEV FEPKH YLEY GΕV Q LEUJ YLJ DSSJP LETK Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A NOTORIOUS GANGSTER BECAME A PSYCHOANALYST,

Mourinho again!

AFP, London

Football

The Football Association (FA) blasted Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho on Wednesday for his claims that Premiership rivals Arsenal received preferential treatment.

The Blues manager insinuated Tuesday that the presence of Gunners vice-chairman David Dein on the FA's board had implications for Chelsea and that Arsenal have been given an easier ride with the Premiership fixture list.

The FA hit back, describing Mourinho's comments as "unnecessary, unhelpful, bad for the image of the game and inaccurate" and said that they would be examining them to decide what action to take.

"The FA is extremely disappointed with the comments made by Jose Mourinho to the media yesterday," an FA statement said.

"At a time when the football

authorities are collectively striving to improve behaviour at all levels of the game, some of those views expressed by Mourinho are unnecessary, unhelpful, bad for the image

of the game and inaccurate. 'The Arsenal Vice-Chairman David Dein is one of four members of The FA Board representing the FA Premier League. The four Premier League representatives are elected by the 20 member Premier League clubs (including Chelsea) to represent their views within The FA.

'We would like to state categorically that Mr Dein does not have any involvement within The FAs Disciplinary or Compliance functions. It should also be made clear that he is not a member of The FAs

Disciplinary Committee Therefore, Mr Dein does not have any input into any decisions to charge individuals or clubs with breaches of FA rules, nor in any judgement or punishment administered by a Disciplinary Commission. "If any club or official has any

comment or complaint to make Jose

RIO DE JANEIRO about the role of any individual within the game, there are channels Gilvan de Souza, father of Brazilian international Robinho, said available to do this through clubs to Wednesday that he does not underthe football authorities not by indistand why Santos President Marcelo viduals in a press conference. Teixeira did not meet his word and let "The FA is currently studying the

comments made by Mr Mourinho." In May, Mourinho was fined 200,000 pounds by the Premier League over the Ashley Cole tapping-up saga - Chelsea were also fined 300,000 pounds - after a complaint by Arsenal but he insisted his club got a raw deal.

Later Wednesday, Chelsea stepped up the war of words by issuing a statement supporting Mourinho.

We have seen the statements issued by the Football Association and the Premier League in response to comments made by Jose Mourinho," said the statement

"We are very aware of our responsibilities to uphold the image of the game and do not want to get involved in conflict with either the FA or the Premier League, neither does

helps and there is more security, which is always important for a family," he said. De Souza also confirmed there

were other teams showing interest in Robinho.

Chelsea, Holland's PSV Eindhoven, and Benfica of Portugal have been interested in my son. But considering the hard work that Real Madrid "Teixeira promised us to let him (Robinho) decide about his future has done, Robinho is sure that Real after Liberators Cup. I don't know is the only club he would like to play why he did not meet his word. But I

expect the issue be decided as soon that he agreed with his son. as possible." said De Souza to the

have better living conditions than Sao Paulo. There language also De Souza. Internet Source

Kottan's first day

The fresh legs of Ismail saw the (Ripon), Rajan, Robin and Nayan substitute chase a long ball on the (Ismail) right flank and pass it back to Monaem who picked Robin on the

Iqbal, Harry, Belal, Haris (Riad), Biddyut, Pappu, Arman, Amin Rana (Al Arman) and Rony (Enamul). Referee: Abdul Hannan

Chappell slams

Talking tough, the Indian cricket team

coach Greg Chappell on Wednesday

slammed sections of the media for

putting the home outfit in a "negative"

negatives that's put out there in the

marketplace about this Indian cricket

team," the 56-year-old former Australian

Captain, who took charge of the Indian

team last month, commented in

"I am appalled at the amount of

"English clubs Arsenal and

with," said Robinho's father, adding

"I agree with my son and we

would like to give up some percentage we would receive for the trans-

for Robinho to leave for Spain." said

Robinho's father said his son is willing to become a member of Real Maybe this would make it easier

"Madrid is a place that allows to

(Rony), Chanchal, Dhiman

MUKTIJODDHA: Aminul, Titu,

2

1 1 2

joddha's third -- to Youngmen's, the only side without any foreign player which lost 10-0 to Sheikh Russel in the biggest defeat in the history of Premier League, Kottan was simply shocked.

top of the box with a fine low cross.

. Sandwiched by two defenders,

Robin just got the time to flick a

first-time right-footer that went in

off the sidebar for his third league

goal, ensuring their second win in

After the defeat -- Mukti-

"We did not have key players for suspension and injury and the substitutes were just not fit. Rony got cramp soon after scoring and the others were also not good enough," he said blasting the reserve players.

"Moreover, lqbal's challenge far out of the goal was unnecessary that got him the red card. It cost us great," he added.

Red card: Igbal (Muktijoddha) Yellow cards: Shiplu, Monaem (Youngmen's)

TEAMS

YOUNGMEN'S: Shiplu, Mamun, Ariful, Shipon, Monaem, Masud

response to a question. The question -- whether India has the "killer instinct" like the Aussies -- annoyed the batting great. "You keep asking me this question:

many members of the media keep asking me this question," he said.

b

Vaas keeps SL afloat

FROM PAGE 16 trapped leg-before by Vaas in the day's third over. Banks, who shared a seventh- wicket stand of 81 with Chander-					Atapattu b Powell1Jayasuriya c Smith b Lawson3Sangakkara c Ramdin b Banks34Jayawardena c Morton b Powell3Samaraweera c and b Lawson11				
paul, made 3	2.				Dilshan c Smith b Banks 32				
SCOREBOARD					Vaas b Smith				49
Scoreboard at stumps on the sec-					Wijekoon c Joseph b Best				12
ond day of the first Test between Sri					Herath c Ramdin b Lawson				24
Lanka and the West Indies at the					Muralitharan b Lawson				36
Sinhalese Sp					Malinga not out				5
on Thursday:					Extras: (lb-6,	nb-11))		17
WEST INDIES: First innings (over-					Total: (All out in 57.3 overs) 227				
night 271-6)					Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-7, 3-32, 4-47,				
Joseph Ibw b Wijekoon 28				5-91, 6-93, 7-					
Marshall Ibw b Vaas 10				Bowler	0	Μ	R	w	
Morton b Mur				43	Powell	13	5	31	2
Deonarine c	Sanga	kkara	a b Ma	linga		14.3			4
12					Best	11	1		1
Chanderpaul Ibw b Vaas 69				Banks	16	3	70	2	
Smith Ibw b Malinga 4			•	Deonarine	1	0	9	0	
Ramdin b Wijekoon 56					Smith	2	0	5	1
Banks b Malinga 32					WEST INDIES: Second innings Joseph c Jayawardena b				
Powell c Jayawardena b Malinga 3 Best b Vaas 4					Joseph c	Jay	awa	rden	a b 2
Best b Vaas 4 Lawson not out 4			Muralitharan 2 Marshall Ibw b Vaas 2						
Extras: (lb-7, nb-13) 20									
Total: (All out in 88.4 overs) 285					Morton Ibw b Vaas 0				
Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-72, 3-95, 4-									5 0
109, 5-113, 6-192, 7-273, 8-276, 9-					Chanderpaul not out 0 Extras: (b-8) 8				
281	,		, •	0,0	()	deta in	10.2		•
Bowler	OMRW				Total: (For 3 wkts in 10.2 overs) 17 Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-3, 3-15				
Vaas	16.4	4	35	3	Bowler	o. 1-0, 1 0	2-3, 3 M	R	w
Malinga	14	1	71	4	Vaas	5	1	4	2
Wijekoon	10	1	49	2	Malinga	3	2	1	0
Muralitharan		8	56	1	Muralitharan		1	2	1
Herath	14	1	52	0	Jayasuriya	0.2	0	2	0
Jayasuriya	5	1	15	0	sayasanya	5.2	Ŭ	-	0
SRILANKA:	First in	inings	5						

Indian media

PTI. BANGALORE

light

38 Singer nants Davis 51 Aachen 40 Shaving article 53 Tin mishap 42 Simile Man's cente prop

SHOULD HE BE NAMED PRETTY BOY FREUD? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals P

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.