

## Inter, Liverpool on course



REUTERS, London

Two Brazilians called Adriano made their mark on Champions League qualifying on Wednesday.

The famed Brazil international laid on one goal and scored the other for Inter Milan in their 2-0 away win over Shakhtar Donetsk in the first leg of their third qualifying round tie in Ukraine.

The much less well known Adriano Pimenta scored for Swiss side Thun, who took another step in their remarkable rise to a possible place in the lucrative group stage with an upset 1-0 away win over Malmö.

Title holders Liverpool also won but Sporting, losing finalists in the UEFA Cup three months ago, were upset 1-0 at home by modest Italian side Udinese, who scored from a first half penalty through Vincenzo Iaquinta.

Liverpool, forced to play all three qualifying rounds after finishing only fifth in the Premier League, won 3-1 against CSKA Sofia in Bulgaria with two goals from Fernando Morientes after Djibril Cisse had opened the scoring in the 26th minute.

Morientes increased the lead just after the half hour with a header from a free kick by captain Steven Gerrard, who laid on all three Liverpool goals.

The Spanish international restored Liverpool's two-goal advantage in the 58th minute after Velizar Dimitrov had pulled one back for the Bulgarian champions in first half stoppage time.

However, the end of the match was marred when Cisse appeared to be targeted for racial abuse by a few CSKA supporters, who were heard to shout monkey noises.

"Always it is a pity to hear such things, but the UEFA official has heard and it has gone in his report," Liverpool coach Rafael Benitez told a news conference.

"We've done a good job as a



IN HIS METTLE: Fernando Morientes of Liverpool is ecstatic after scoring one of his two goals against CSKA Sofia on Wednesday.

team in defence and played compact football. In the end, it was a good result," he added.

In Donetsk, striker Obafemi Martins put Inter ahead in the 67th minute from a back-heeled pass by Adriano, who 11 minutes later headed home a high cross from substitute Ze Maria.

"Inter were much better organised, with better tactics and more experience at European level," Shakhtar coach Mircea Lucescu said.

In Malmö, midfielder Adriano scored in the 34th minute for Thun, promoted to the Swiss top flight as recently as 2002, firing home from the edge of the box.

Malmö, European Cup finalists in

1979, hit the woodwork through teenager Mattias Asper but did however provide one of Ajax's scorers in their 2-2 draw with Brondby.

Swede Markus Rosenberg, who was born in Malmö 24 years ago and played for the club, struck after half an hour of his Ajax debut to put the Dutch side one up.

After a first-half equaliser by Morten Skoubo and a second Ajax goal by Ryan Babel, the Danish side levelled the tie three minutes into stoppage time through Martin Retov, whose shot took a deflection and deceived keeper Hans Vonk.

"2-2 is a fair result. Maybe Brondby deserved more... The late goal was very important for Brondby

and it leaves the second leg in Amsterdam open," said Ajax coach Danny Blind.

In other matches on Wednesday, Anderlecht beat Slavia Prague 2-1 and Basel overcame Werder Bremen by the same score. There were three draws.

Steaua Bucharest were held 1-1 at home by Rosenborg Trondheim and Artmedia Bratislava, who eliminated Celtic in the previous round, drew 0-0 at home with Partizan Belgrade while Rapid Vienna and Lokomotiv Moscow finished 1-1 in Austria.

Manchester United, Villarreal, Rangers, Real Betis, Wisla Krakow and Valerenga won the six first leg matches played on Tuesday.

## AFRO-ASIAN CUP SERIES Players letting it go

AFP, New Delhi

The inaugural one-day series between Asia and Africa to be held in South Africa later this month has been marred by the withdrawal of leading players.

A week after Pakistan's Navedul Hasan dropped out of the Asian team due to his commitments with English county Sussex, seamers Chaminda Vaas of Sri Lanka and Irfan Pathan of India withdrew on Thursday due to injuries.

Vaas and Pathan were injured during the recent tri-series in Sri Lanka although both took part in Tuesday's final in which Sri Lanka defeated India by 18 runs.

"Vaas and Pathan have been advised to rest," an Asian Cricket Council (ACC) official said, adding that India's Zaheer Khan and Ashish Nehra were the likely replacements.

"An announcement will be made in due course."

The made-for-television series, granted official status by the International Cricket Council, will be played in Centurion near Pretoria on August 17 and in Durban on August 20 and 21.

The African team, already missing fast bowler Makhaya Ntini because he prefers to play for English county Warwickshire, also lost South African Albie Morkel and Zimbabwe's Andy Bagnall because of injuries.

The duo will be replaced by one player, South African all-rounder Justin Kemp. "Naturally, losing players of the calibre of Irfan, Chaminda, Albie and Andy is a big blow, but we are fortunate to have enormous depth in both squads," African official Cassim Suliman said in a statement.

**TEAMS**  
**AFRICA:** Graeme Smith (captain), Shaun Pollock, Boeta Dippenaar, AB de Villiers, Jacques Kallis, Ashwell Prince, Mark Boucher, Monde Zondeki, Jacques Rudolph, Nicky Boje, Justin Ontong, Dale Steyn, Justin Kemp (South Africa); Steve Tikolo, Collins Obuya, Thomas Odoyo (Kenya); Heath Streak, Tatenda Taibu (Zimbabwe).

**ASIA:** Inzamamul Haq (captain), Yousuf Youhana, Shahid Afridi, Abdul Razaq, Shoib Akhtar (Pakistan); Rahul Dravid, Virender Sehwag, Ashish Nehra, Zaheer Khan, Anil Kumble (India); Kumar Sangakkara, Sanath Jayasuriya, Muttiah Muralitharan (Sri Lanka); Moham-mad Ashraf and Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza (Bangladesh).

## 'Stop cursing please'



AP, London

Cursing is so prevalent in English soccer that the British educator called for games to be banned from television during the daytime last season.

Following one contentious exchange between a referee and Wayne Rooney, the Manchester United star was sent to anger management classes after he used 10 obscenities in 60 seconds.

He'll get a red card if he behaves the same way this season. The Premier League starts Saturday and English officials are moving to clean up the image of a game littered with bad conduct and occasional on-field violence.

"Any player who provokes a direct confrontation with a match official and uses offensive, insulting or abusive language will be dismissed," said Keith Hackett, who heads the group that oversees England's top game officials.

"This is about asking players to look at themselves."

Criticized for being lax with players, the Premier League, the English Football Association and bodies representing players, managers and referees have issued a new set of behavior guidelines.

"We are all looking to create a positive image for the game, and bad language has no part to play in that," said referee Graham Poll, who had the run-in with Rooney. "We want people to be positive about the game and be entertained."

The players' union has even printed posters urging its members to straighten up.

Under a photograph of a player and referee arguing -- but smiling -- a caption reads: "Respect the Game. Respect the Ref."

Earlier this year, Martin Ward,

deputy general secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, called the behavior of many English soccer players "very childish."

"Such incidents should not be shown until after the 9 p.m. watershed, and preferably not at all," Ward said during a speech made a few weeks after Rooney's outburst. "It's making it more difficult to help our young children grow up."

He added that it was making teaching "infinitely more difficult" because students were copying the behavior of famous players.

Premier League chief executive Richard Scudamore agrees.

"In this modern, multi-camera television age, footballers' language and behavior are subject to more scrutiny than ever before," he said. "This behavior is then copied on pitches and parks across the world."

Added Hackett: "There is no doubt that what is seen on a Saturday afternoon is repeated on Sunday mornings."

Former England, Barcelona and Newcastle manager Bobby Robson says standards have slipped.

"If you swear at the referee, it's a red card," the 72-year-old Englishman said. "And any player who doesn't behave, who doesn't understand and doesn't act properly has to learn the lesson."

Soccer could learn from rugby, where decisions are respected and there are few attempts to intimidate referees.

"We have to bring that into our game," Robson said.

Officials also promise to crack down on the trend of angry players surrounding referees after every close call. The result is often shouting, swearing and ugly scenes replayed for days on TV.

Despite the game's prosperity, officials know they have a problem.

The Premier League is the world's highest earning soccer league. Deloitte's Sports Business

Group reported the average revenue per club was \$120 million in 2003-2004 -- 50 percent above the nearest competitor, Italy's Serie A.

It's not only the players who have behaved badly. It's the managers, too.

The feud between Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger and Man United's Alex Ferguson peaked 10 months ago when United ended the Gunners' record 49-game league unbeaten string.

Players and officials scuffled in the Old Trafford stadium tunnel after the match, and Ferguson was reportedly pelted with pizza and soup in what the British media dubbed the "Battle of the Buffet."

Ferguson called Wenger a "disgrace."

Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho was banned from the bench for two games last season for suggesting that Barcelona manager Frank Rijkaard colluded with a referee in a Champions League match.

John Barnwell, chief executive of the League Managers' Association, has asked his members to clean up their act.

"All managers have a responsibility as they are in a prestigious position," he said. "They can also certainly control their own prematch and postmatch criticism or discussion about match officials."

Prime Minister Tony Blair's government has welcomed the call for civility.

"Every young footballer can remember watching their hero play and wanting to emulate them on the park or the school playground," Sports Minister Richard Caborn said. "I'd now like to see the chairmen of all football clubs back the football authorities in their desire to clean up the game."

## Fitting

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Warne hit rock-bottom after being given a 12-month suspension for taking a banned diuretic just before the 2003 World Cup.

He returned in March 2004 and has not looked back although he admits his physical approach to his record-breaking efforts is unorthodox.

"My diet is still pizzas, chips, toasted cheese sandwiches and milkshakes," he told a magazine last month.

"I have the occasional six week burst where I stick to fruit and cereal. "It bloody kills me but I guess you have to do it."

Warne admits he has made many mistakes but never looks back.

"I've made some poor choices when I've had too many," he says. "The problem is there's still a big kid inside me who likes to have fun. Maybe I need to grow up ... and maybe I don't."

"I may have done a few things differently. But when you are thrust into the limelight at 22, like I was, it can be hard to deal with it in a mature, sensible way."

"You can't describe what that ball to Gattling did. It changed my life forever, on and off the pitch. I started being judged on every move I made."

When Warne smashed Sri Lankan Muttiah Muralitharan's world wicket-taking record in India last October, Cricket Australia said in a tribute: "Shane's ability to dismiss all types of batsmen in a variety of conditions makes him one of the greatest bowlers in cricket's history."

"In addition to his feats on the ground, Shane has played a pivotal role in revolutionising the art of leg-spin bowling, which has inspired a new generation of children to the craft."

## Vaughan finds

FROM PAGE 16

a back injury.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the third Ashes Test between England and Australia at Old Trafford on Thursday.

**ENGLAND:** First innings  
Trescothick c Gilchrist b Warne 63  
Strauss b Lee 6  
Vaughan not out 93  
Bell not out 14  
Extras: (b-4, lb-3, w-2, nb-10) 19  
Total: (For 2 wickets in 54 overs) 195  
Fall of wickets: 1-26, 2-163  
To bat: Pietersen, Flintoff, G Jones, Giles, Hoggard, Harmison, S Jones

**AUSTRALIA:** Langer, Hayden, Ponting, Martyn, Clarke, Katich, Gilchrist, Warne, Lee, Gillespie, McGrath

**Toss:** England.  
**Umpires:** Billy Bowden (New Zealand) and Steve Bucknor (West Indies).

## Cafu's clone dreams of Italy



AFP, Rome

Brazil international Cicinho has admitted he would welcome a move to Italy and dreams of playing for AC Milan.

"I want to play in Italy - it's been my dream since I was a child," the 25-year-old, whose full name is Cicero Joao De Cesare, told the Gazzetta dello Sport.

Asked which team he would like to play for, he replied: "AC Milan - they are the strongest team in Europe."

The Sao Paulo defender is regarded as Marcos Cafu's heir in the Brazil side and he has set his sights on replacing his idol at AC Milan.

"My friend Cafu is at AC Milan. He is my idol. I was just a baby when he became a World Cup winner. "It's an honour for me to be considered as his heir. It would be extraordinary to take his place at AC Milan. But why couldn't we play together?"

Cicinho, who on Wednesday was granted Italian citizenship by

virtue of his Italian grandfather, recently extended his contract with Sao Paulo.

However, he is reported to have a buy-out clause in his contract that would allow him to leave if the right offer came in.



CICINHO

An attack-minded right full-back, Cicinho played in three of Brazil's five matches in the Confederations Cup which they lifted in June.

He wrote his name into the record books of the Copa

Libertadores when he scored the 10,000th goal in the competition's history.

Meanwhile, Sao Paulo executives have denied receiving any offers from European clubs for Cicinho who has been linked with a move to Manchester United and AC Milan this summer but the club claim they have yet to receive a proposal.

"There hasn't been any offer made to Sao Paulo," said an unnamed club executive on the Sao Paulo official website.

The Brazilian outfit did confirm that the player, who is under contract until 2008, has held talks this summer with several European clubs.

"He (Cicinho) is in Europe and he must be negotiating with a club because his agent is with him. "But any negotiation must be accepted by Sao Paulo, who own 60% of Cicinho's sporting rights."

Marcelo Gouvea, president of Sao Paulo, told O Globo TV: "I will do everything to keep the player at Sao Paulo but if the English club were to pay 12 million dollars for his transfer there is nothing I can do to keep him."

## Is it Ganguly or Dravid?



AFP, New Delhi

Sourav Ganguly's future as Indian cricket captain will be decided on Friday when the selectors announce their choice for the tour of Zimbabwe and possibly the rest of the season.

Ganguly, India's most successful Test captain with 19 wins, was replaced by his long-time deputy Rahul Dravid for the recent tri-series in Sri Lanka as he served out an International Cricket Council (ICC)-imposed ban for slow over-rates.

Under Dravid, India defeated the second-string West Indies twice but lost three straight matches to the hosts, including Tuesday's day-night final by 18 runs at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo.

With the ban behind him, Ganguly would have been considered a certainty to regain the captaincy for this month's Zimbabwe tour which includes a tri-series also featuring New Zealand and two Tests against the lowly-rated hosts.

But the left-hander's poor form with the bat, which has fetched him just 927 runs in the last 20 Test matches, has raised speculation that Dravid may get a longer term under new coach Greg Chappell.

Dravid, the reigning ICC cricketer-of-the-year, is India's batting star with 2,082 runs in the last 20 Tests at an average of 74.35 which has lifted his team to number three in the ICC's Test rankings.

One of the five selectors said he was backing Ganguly.

"Sourav is a proven leader of men," the selector told AFP on condition of anonymity. "He was the captain before the ban and should

get it back.

"But I am only speaking for myself. I don't know what the others think. Ganguly himself would not be drawn on the question."

"I am neither wanting, nor not wanting the captaincy," he told the Kolkata-based Telegraph newspaper. "I believe in destiny and whatever is destined will happen."

Asked to comment on Dravid's leadership in Sri Lanka, Ganguly said: "Anything I say may be taken out of context. Therefore, I would not like to comment."

Both Ganguly, 33, and Dravid, 32, made spectacular Test debuts together against England at Lord's in 1996 with the left-hander stroking a fluent 131 and Dravid falling short of a century by five runs.

Ganguly was made captain in 2000, with Dravid as his deputy, when Sachin Tendulkar stepped down as skipper reportedly due to a disagreement over team selection.

A tough and uncompromising captain, Ganguly has provided Indian cricket with some of its finest moments like the come-from-behind 2-1 series win at home over world champions Australia in 2001, a place in the World Cup final in 2003 and maiden Test and one-day series wins in Pakistan in 2004.

His 144 against Australia in the first Test in Brisbane inspired India to a creditable 1-1 draw in the away series against Steve Waugh's champions in 2003-04.

That brilliant century, however, was Ganguly's last at the international level as his batting form deserted him.

Worse was to come as he was hauled up by match referees for slow over-rates and forced to make way for Dravid in the last two one-dayers against Pakistan in April and

the Sri Lankan tri-series.

Dravid had also led India in five Tests when Ganguly was injured, winning two and losing two while one was drawn.

Ganguly's one-day captaincy record is 73-63 in 141 matches with five no results. Dravid has 7-9 from 17 games with one no-result.

Ganguly has scored 4,949 runs in 82 Tests at an average of 40.90 with 11 centuries. In 274 one-dayers, he has 10,046 runs with 22 hundreds.

In contrast, Dravid aggregates 7,696 runs in 89 Tests at 57.86 with 20 centuries. In 257 one-dayers, he has 8,319 runs with 10 hundreds.

India's engagements till May include hosting Sri Lanka, South Africa and England and tours of Pakistan and the West Indies.

## Faridpur boys win football friendly

BDNEWS, Faridpur

Faridpur District seven-a-side junior team defeated the touring Indian seven-a-side junior team 6-2 in a friendly football match at the Faridpur Stadium yesterday.

Minar slammed a hatrick while Mahfuz, Nahid and Gani scored one goal each for the home side.

Substitute Lingoppa netted both the goals for the visitors.

Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Eusuf inaugurated the match as chief guest.

Faridpur District seven-a-side junior team will play against the Indian seven-a-side senior team in the next match today.

## WORLD ATHLETICS Tonique, Clay rule the day

AFP, Helsinki

Tonique Williams-Darling of Bahamas produced a performance worthy of an Olympic champion to add the world 400 metres title to her medal collection at the World Athletics Championships on Wednesday.

America's Bryan Clay, last year's Olympic Games decathlon silver medalist, also grabbed an impressive gold from last year's Athens hero Roman Sebrle of the Czech Republic.

The United States were to celebrate a second success as another of their new kids on the block Tianna Madison won the women's long jump title at the tender age of 19 seeing off the Olympic bronze medalist Tatyana Kotova and defending champion Eunice Barber of France.

Despite the absence of four-time champion Hicham El Guerrouj, a Moroccan still won the men's 1500m title -- unfortunately Rashid Ramzi now runs for Bahrain and intends to double up in Thursday's 800m heats.

Finland's hopes of winning their first gold ended in disappointment as



PHOTO: AFP

Tonique Williams-Darling of Bahamas celebrates after winning the 400m gold at the 10th IAAF World Athletics Championships in Helsinki on Wednesday.

their javelin finalists failed to medal in appalling weather conditions which brought rain and biting cold.

But there was some consolation as Andrus Varnik of Baltic neighbours Estonia turned his silver from the 2003 championships into gold.

Williams-Darling put in a stunning last 100 metres in the driving rain down the straight to overhaul America's Tanya Richards, who was seeking to give Michael Johnson's former coach Clyde Hart the first part of a golden double.



AFP, Wellington

The West Indies will play an extra Test in New Zealand early next year after the cancellation of Zimbabwe's tour in December, New Zealand Cricket said Thursday.

Zimbabwe's return visit after New Zealand's tour had to be cancelled because the New Zealand government refused to issue visas to the team in protest at human rights abuses by President Robert Mugabe's government.

The West Indies was originally to have played two Tests in March but a third has been added to help make up the shortfall in revenue from the cancelled Zimbabwe tour, the cricket board said.

"Attempts to replace the cancelled Zimbabwe tour have been partially successful," chief executive Martin Snedden said.

"The West Indies cricket board has agreed to a third Test match which will assist us to mitigate any potential losses from the cancelled tour."

The West Indies arrives in February for the tour which will also include a Twenty20 match and five one-day matches.

The first Test, on March 9-13 at Auckland's Eden Park, will mark the 50th anniversary of New Zealand's first Test victory, which was against the West Indies at the same ground.

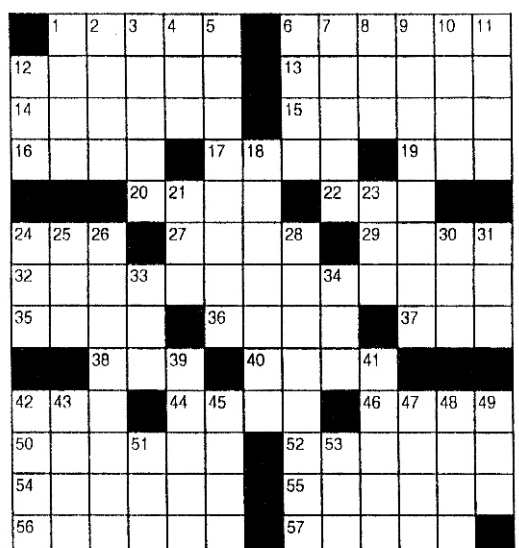
"We expect this anniversary to be a very special occasion for cricket in New Zealand and will be appropriately celebrated at that time,"

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Cancel husband  
6 Without delay  
12 Cereal choice  
13 Show  
14 Beast  
15 "Side-ways" supply  
16 "Red Sox curse" allusion  
17 Cupid's field  
19 "A Chorus Line" song  
20 Logical  
22 Suitable  
24 Mimic  
27 Ella's specialty  
29 Staffer  
32 "Spy Hand" star  
35 Helen's home  
36 Polygon part  
37 "Dalloway"  
38 Pro  
40 Woman in Do-Right's life  
42 The lady

**DOWN**  
1 "Mens" saying  
23 Crony  
21 "— was saying ..."  
23 Crony  
21 "— was saying ..."  
23 Crony  
21 "— was saying ..."  
23 Crony

**Solution time: 27 mins.**  
NEW TOPIC COW  
EGG OXEN AREA  
SHOCKING MESS  
TOLLEDE EWE  
ONE SHOWFAR  
SWEETS STIM  
PILLOLS BLOOY  
ASS BYE PRESS  
SHOGUN ALI  
ANA CONDOIR  
JAZZ SHOWTIME  
ALICE TIRE VIE  
BEES SEND END



**CRYPTOQUIP**  
Y V J V Y O P E Z T S Q A O Y B G A M  
L Q F F Z H O Y U X Z X P G O G J L G I .  
H Z Q A I X P J X L G E J F S ' A A  
X Q U G A O M U I F Z T G ?  
Yesterday's Cryptquip: ASSUMING ROSEANNE REALLY LOVES CHOCOLATE, HER DAUGHTER COULD'VE BEEN NAMED CANDY BARR.  
Today's Cryptquip Clue: U equals N  
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.