kidnapper arrested

AP, Sao Paulo

Police said Saturday they have arrested one of Brazil's most-wanted criminals, who is believed to have masterminded last year's abduction of the mother of Santos and Brazilian national team forward Robinho.

Police arrested Celio Marcelo da Silva, nicknamed "bin Laden," on Friday night after a car chase and a brief gun battle in a southern section of Sao Paulo

Da Silva opened fire as officers approached the car he was in with his girlfriend. She was wounded in the shooting and rushed to a hospital. Police have not revealed her name.

In 2003, da Silva tunneled his way out of a Sao Paulo prison where he was serving a 38-year sentence for murder and robbery. In late 2004, he allegedly led the gang that kidnapped Marina da Silva de Souza, the mother

Robinho's mother was released unharmed 40 days after being abducted. Her star son never confirmed media reports that he paid a ransom of 200,000 reals (US\$81,000;€65,023).

Robinho already has signed a five-year contract with Real Madrid and is due to transfer to the Spanish club on Aug. 25.

Maradona's life on the silver screen

AP, Rome

Italian director Marco Risi, the son of acclaimed director Dino Risi, says he has reached an agreement with Diego Maradona to direct a film on the player's life

The film will be called "La Mano di Dio," named after Maradona's "Hand of God" goal in the 1986 World Cup, when he punched the ball in for a goal against England in

The younger Risi says he is looking for an Argentine to play Maradona.

"It doesn't have the classic style, it's a series of incursions in the various phases of his life, with extracts of his most glorious soccer moments," Risi said in an interview published Tuesday in La Repubblica.

"I think of him as a genius. Soccer exists before and after Maradona. It's like Van Gogh in painting or Charlie Parker in music." Risi, who plans to start filming in

October, added that the film will also include parts on Maradona's demise and his battle with drugs.

As well as winning the 1986 World Cup, Maradona led Napoli to the Italian league title in 1987 and 1990, the only two championships in the club's history. He also played for Barcelona and Boca Junior

Another film on Maradona's life is being directed by two-time Cannes Film Festival winner Emir Kusturica.

Robinho's mom's | SPANISH SUPER CUP

Super Barca

Football

League champions Barcelona made a sparkling start to the new season with a classy 3-0 win away to King's Cup winners Real Betis in the first leg of the Spanish Super Cup on Saturday.

Superbly crafted second half strikes from French winger Ludovic Giuly and last season's leading scorer Samuel Eto'o as well as a stunning free kick from World Player of the Year Ronaldinho set the Catalans well on the way to their first trophy of the season.

'It was a very important victory for us," said Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard. "But it is only one game and we can't take too may conclusions from this and must keep working very hard."

The Dutchman's side signalled their attacking intentions from the first whistle, with midfielder Xavi firing a long-distance effort a metre wide of the post with less than a minute on the clock.

Barca laid siege to the Betis area for the next quarter of an hour with Ronaldinho and the lively Giuly involved in some intricate moves as they tried to pick the opposition defence.

Joaquin responded for Betis after 20 minutes when he danced his way past four Barca players and send a delicate dink just past the post with keeper Victor Valdes

The league champions almost took the lead 10 minutes from the break after a stunning one-touch passing move, but Betis keeper Toni Doblas tipped over a stinging shot

On the stroke of halftime Xavi had another chance to put his side ahead but this time he drilled a fierce shot against the base of the post after Ronaldinho had cut open the

The visitors finally broke the deadlock two minutes after the



Real Betis' Miguel Angel (R) desperately tries to check Barcelona superstar Ronaldinho during the first leg of their Spanish Super Cup match in Seville

break thanks to a magnificent disguised pass from Ronaldinho and an ice-cool finish from Giuly.

The Brazilian looked one way and then slipped the ball the other as Giuly scorched past the Betis back four. steadied himself and then slotted a low shot through Doblas's legs.

Betis, who beat AS Monaco 1-0 in midweek in the first leg of a Champions League qualifier, were denied an equaliser when Valdes produced a superb reflex save low to his right to stop a powerful header from Betis striker Ricardo Oliveira.

But Barca extended their lead

soon after when Eto'o shimmied past Doblas and slotted into the open net after the outstanding Xavi slid a pass with the outside of his

Ronaldinho added the icing on the cake just after the hour when he curled a sharply dipping free kick over the wall and into the net past a bemused Doblas.

Barcelona, who lost on the last two occasions they appeared in the Super Cup, will be hot favourites when they meet the Andalucians in the return leg at the Nou Camp next

PREMIERSHIP

Same old start for Liverpool

Football

AFP, London

It was straight back to domestic disappointment for Champions League winners Liverpool who were held 0-0 at Middlesbrough as the English Premiership kicked off on

Manchester United meanwhile. proved their title credentials with a 2-0 victory at Everton. With last runners-up Arsenal starting their campaigns Sunday, United showcased their intent to run them a lot closer in the title race this time

On their Premiership return, West Ham beat Blackburn 3-1 but Championship winners Sunderland were beaten 3-1 by Charlton and a rejuvenated Tottenham won 2-0 at Portsmouth.

At Goodison Park, goals from Netherlands striker Ruud van Nistelrooy and former Everton striker Wayne Rooney asserted United's superiority with a comprehensive victory that exposed a gulf

Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard earned praise from both managers after a dominant display

at the Riverside stadium but there was no way through against a resolute 10-man Boro in a 0-0 draw.

"He has scored seven goals in our pre-season and had two or three clear opportunities here, so we have to be happy that he is getting into the box so often," said Liverpool boss Rafa Benitez.

"He's an awesome player," added Boro counterpart Steve

Middlesbrough defender Ugo Ehiogu was dismissed with 15 minutes remaining before Gerrard's 76th minute header looped onto the crossbar and another went agonisingly wide 11 minutes from time. West Ham celebrated their

from behind to beat Blackburn Rovers 3-1 at Upton Park. Andy Todd put the visitors ahead but 39-year-old former England and

return to the top flight by coming

Manchester United striker Teddy Sheringham equalised. The veteran inspired the the Hammers to dominate and Nigel Reo-Coker lashed in from distance and Matthew Etherington sealed victory before Rovers' Paul Dickov

was dismissed. Tottenham fancy their chances of claiming a UEFA Cup spot this season and saw off Pompey in a 2-

Spurs were without the injured Netherlands veteran Edgar Davids, Robbie Keane and Ledley King but still claimed victory.

Their first goal at Fratton Park in 47 years - an own-goal by Portsmouth's Andy Griffin - and one from England striker Jermain Defoe ensured victory

welcomed Championship winners Sunderland back to the top flight by beating them 3-1 at the Stadium of Light. New striker Darren Bent's

Ten-man visitors Charlton

double and a Danny Murphy free kick did the damage for Charlton despite Darren Ambrose's dismissal

Newboy Andy Gray scored for Sunderland.

Aston Villa and Bolton got off to a flying start at Villa Park with all four goals in a 2-2 draw raining in inside nine minutes.

Former Southampton striker Kevin Phillips took just four minutes to open his Villa account. But the joy lasted two minutes

more before Kevin Davies and Ivan Campo turned things around for the UEFA Cup side.

Steven Davis then equalised for the hosts.

Manchester City, without the wing trickery of Chelsea capture Sean Wright-Phillips, were held at home to a goalless draw by last season's relegation survivors West

Mid-table fodder Fulham and Birmingham drew 0-0 at Craven Cottage

Premiership debutants Wigan take on Chelsea on Sunday and struggling giants Newcastle visit FA Cup holders Arsenal.

BUNDESLIGA

Makaay on fire

REUTERS, Berlin

Dutch striker Roy Makaay scored a hat-trick to fire champions Bayern Munich to a 5-2 win at Bayer Leverkusen on Saturday.

Bayern's victory sent them top of the table with six points and eight goals in their first two matches.

Any hopes Bayer may have had of repeating their 4-1 humiliation of Bavern last season were soon extinguished. Michael Ballack opened the

scoring against his former side,

powering home a perfectly-placed

shot into the corner of the net in the Makaay put Bayern 2-0 up eight minutes later but Bulgarian striker Dimitar Berbatov netted a penalty in the 32nd minute, briefly bringing

Bayer into the game. Four minutes later Ali Karimi extended Bayern's lead to 3-1 and Makaay turned the screw, scoring twice within seven minutes in the second half. Bayer's Marko Babic got a late consolation eight minutes

Borussia Dortmund took the lead in the 17th minute against Schalke 04 through Ebi Smolarek, but Germany striker Kevin Kuranvi headed an equaliser and clinched a winner 13 minutes into the second half before a sell-out crowd of over 81,000.

Schalke have the same number of points as Bayern and Hamburg SV, 2-0 winners at Arminia Bielefeld

Promoted MSV Duisburg troubled Kaiserslautern in an actionpacked game before losing 5-3.

History beckons Kiwi captain

REUTERS, Bulawayo

Captain Stephen Fleming could become the first New Zealander to reach 6,000 Test runs during the second and final Test against Zimbabwe starting on Monday.

Fleming goes into the match with 5,985 runs from his 95 Tests and will fancy his chances of reaching the milestone against suffering Zimbabwe. He said on Sunday: "It would be

good do it, but I'm more orientated towards team statistics than individual achievements. In the first Test in Harare, New

Zealand achieved their biggest victory, by an innings and 294 runs, and inflicted Zimbabwe's worst

ORIENT BREAD HANDBALL

Rifles thrash Rajshahi

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Rifles recorded a comfortable 33-17 win over Rajshahi City Corporation in the opening match of the Orient Bread Cup handball tournament at the Outer Stadium handball court.

Saiduzzaman netted eight goals and Sajal seven for the winners who led the first half 20-9

The visitors put on a better show in the second half with Jaman and Mizanur notching five goals each.

Earlier, Lt Gen (retd) Mahbubur Rahman, chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence Ministry, declared the sixteam meet open.

No surprises

FROM PAGE 12

They also took the necessary papers on behalf of joint secretary candidate Reazuddin Al Mamun. The second day of the three-day

distribution of nomination papers saw 54 papers going to 22 councilors for the elections. On Saturday, 29 councilors

bought 38 nominations papers. The National Sports Council will

bring the distribution to a close on Monday afternoon and the councilors will submit their papers to Election Commission on August 17.

Gunners leave

FROM PAGE 12 leading leg but his trailing leg followed through and scissored the midefielders standing leg.

The match seemed set for a onesided contest as the home side looked to prise open the 10-man wall in front of them but five minutes later it was the team in black and white stripes that put the ball in the

Alan Shearer latched on to a Lee Bowyer flick and beat Jens Lehmann in the Arsenal goal but he had strayed a couple of yards offside and the goal was chalked off.

Aussies getting

FROM PAGE 12 Ponting had batted first in the second Test," The Sunday Telegraph said.

"Almost certainly it cost Australia the match. Because the decision was so poor, it upset the mood and mindset of some Australian players." Roebuck opined that Vaughan

has "outthought and outplayed his

counterpart" in the series. "Ponting has been unable to impose himself as a batsman or as a leader," he said.

'It's a bit strange'

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Disturbed about his exclusion from the one-day side after playing two games in the just-concluded Indian Oil Cup in Sri Lanka, Anil Kumble has asked if different standards are used to measure different players.

himself in the third person, Kumble said to the Times of India, "It's a bit strange this happens only to a few players like Laxman, Anil. People expect me to take five wickets every time I bowl. That's not possible. As long as there is the same scale for everyone, it's fine, but..." While Kumble's Test form has

record has not been as noteworthy. In his last 30 games, Kumble has claimed 28 wickets at 42.10. But the 30 have been scattered, with instances of hurried selections and hasty rests, followed by calls for his retirement from one-dayers. "For the last one-and-a-half years

improved dramatically, his one-day

people have been asking me this question," he said. "Do they mean to say that I should stop playing one-

Sunday for four, he hooked his

second straight to Ashley Giles at

deep square leg having faced 122

It was a desperate way for the

35-year-old, who'd made 99 against

New Zealand at Perth in 2001-02, to

exit after putting on 86 with Gillespie

out almost saw Australia home at

Edgbaston, managed just one

before he edged reverse-swing

specialist Jones to first slip

Trescothick, who took a fine two-

Jones, the son of former England

left-arm quick Jeff, ended the

innings in Sunday's 15th over when

Scoreboard at tea on the fourth day

of the third Ashes Test between

England and Australia at Old

ENGLAND: First innings 444

(Vaughan 166, Trescothick 63, Bell

AUSTRALIA: First innings (over-

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

4 Governor

salutation

basket-

for short

8 Someone

in the

9 Bar

10 Razor

brand

11 Wanders

about

17 Simple

19 Comic

Leno

22 Charged

24 Oklaho-

6 Swabbie's 27 Savings-

5 Claw

39 Larry's

40 Vertical,

43 Rube

49 Beige

51 Historic

period

captain

not to ..."

Panther'

Herbert

actor

55 Realtor's

1 Off base

2 Gambling 25 Nursery

Solution time: 21 mins

DOWN

54 "Pink

as oars

47 Tweety's

meal

ACROSS

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raphy

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15 Not imit.

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played by

McShane

16 Parrot

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20 Hold-up

man?

21 Tandoori

bread

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thieves

jaunt

30 Fuss and

31 Thither

33 Rural

38 Golfer

Ernie

feathers

excursion

36 Reinforce

23 Insane

26 Car

22 Equa

distance

5 Highland-

er's hat

12 Bleacher- 50 Author

13 "Eureka!" 52 Obsessed

-- horse!" 53 "To ---

59; Warne 4-99, Lee 4-100)

handed catch diving to his left.

Gillespie was Ibw for 26.

SCOREBOARD

Trafford on Sunday:

New batsman Lee, whose 43 not

balls with one six and 11 fours.

for the eighth wicket.

FROM PAGE 12

Strauss stands up

dayers? Isn't it my prerogative to

The secretary of the Board of Control for Ćricket in India, Karunakaran Nair, explained the dropping of Kumble and VVS Laxman: "The selectors felt they would be more



ANIL KUMBLE

useful in the Tests. Their recent record in one-day matches was also consid-

Ponting c Bell b S Jones

Warne c Giles b S Jones

Gillespie Ibw b S Jones

Clarke c Flintoff b S Jones

Lee c Trescothick b S Jones

Total: (All out in 84.5 overs)

Extras: (b-8, lb-7, w-8, nb-15) 38

Fall of wickets: 1-58, 2-73, 3-86, 4-

119, 5-133, 6-186, 7-201, 8-287, 9-

10

6

20

17.5

Total: (For 2 wkts in 35 overs) 128

0

11

M

37

ENGLAND: Second innings

Trescothick b McGrath

Vaughan c sub b Lee

Extras: (lb-1, nb-7)

Fall of wickets: 1-64, 2-97

Strauss not out

Bell not out

Bowler

McGrath

0 47

2 22

6 53

4 100

Gilchrist c G Jones b S Jones

Martyn b Giles

Katich b Flintoff

McGrath not out

Bowler

Harmison

Hoggard

SJones

ered before selecting the side." He attributed Zaheer Khan's exclusion to the same reason. As for

New Zealand

stages of each day, because play begins at 10 a.m. when there is still some dampness around.

Lakshmipathy Balaji, who had done

little wrong, Nair said that he had been

rested to give others a chance on what he

inted was an ideal tour to experiment.

captaincy for only the tour of Zimbabwe

after what was reported to be a narrow

selection vote in his favour, said that the

two separate teams chosen for the one-

day and Test series were the board's

profile exclusions, telling the Hindustan

Times that it "doesn't matter who is (in)

the team and who isn't. The team has to

replied, "That's for the selectors to

answer. I'm happy with the selection."

He refused to speak about the high-

Asked specifically about Kumble, he

Sourav Ganguly, assigned the

TEAMS

NEW ZEALAND: Stephen Fleming, Lou Vincent, James Marshall, Hamish Marshall, Nathan Astle, Scott Styris, James Franklin, Daniel Vettori, Brendan McCullum, Shane Bond,

Chris Martin. 12th man Kyle Mills. ZIMBABWE (from): Tatenda Taibu Heath Streak, Andy Blignaut, Stuart Carlisle, Graeme Cremer, Keith Dabengwa, Dion Ebrahim, Neil Ferreira, Anthony Ireland, Blessing Mahwire, Hamilton Masakadza, Chris Mpofu, Brendan Taylor, Craig

Umpires: Darrell Hair (Australia) and Mark Benson (England).

Clarke could

FROM PAGE 12

he rest of his career. Alcott added he was still searchng for the factors which trigger Clarke's condition, but said the New South Wales batsman had complained of tightness in his back in the warm-up before the match began on

"He suffers an acute condition which gives him this bad back. We've just got to find out what it is that's

"We have to go through his work diary and see if he's been doing three hours of fielding leading up to a Test match. Maybe we've got to reduce

that down and not overuse that area." Australia are set to resume Sunday on 264 for seven, 180 runs behind England's first innings 444 with Shane Warne 78 not out and



Former director of Bangladesh Cricket Board Mahabub Anam (R), who will run for the post of BCB general secretary, shakes hands with a returning officer after collecting his nomination form at the National Sports Council on Sunday.

26 Greasy-

plan

28 Elmer, to

29 Ram's

31 Gridiron

34 Library

35 Sorts

(Abbr.)

patron

36 Tarzan's

37 Close up

address

40 Quatrain

rhyme

41 Languish

43 Meda

44 Rever-

45 Part of

earner

berate

Q.F.D.

kniaht-

46 Bestows

hood

upon

wigglei

48 Wet

scheme

39 Lady's

spoon

beverage

acronym

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12		Τ			13	1	T		14	T	T	T
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18				19				20	T		\vdash	
			21				22		1			
23	24	25				26			\vdash	27	28	29
30					31		T			32	\vdash	T
33			34	35				36	37		1	
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40	41	42		Г		43				44	45	46
47		T			48				49	T	T	\vdash
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53					54		1	ı	55		-	

CRYPTOQUIP

ZJQ UQHRIZRPD OHRBP

RD DGH GRSYDHC GJSPH. DGHK RBMRKP ORIH UREJY

RYC PEQHRO JZ MGHRD.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE AGING DRY CLEANER WAS A WHITE-COLLAR CRIMINAL, INFAMOUS FOR MONEY LAUNDERING. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals U

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.

