

Hants plan floatation

AFP, London
A company that owns one of England's top county cricket teams is mulling listing on a junior stock market as interest in the sport grows, the Financial Times newspaper reported on Saturday.

Pak-Kashmir

FROM PAGE 12
surrounding the city are clearly visible from the stadium. Authorities believe such grounds will help develop and promote cricket in the region, allowing locals greater opportunity to develop and play for the Pakistan national team.

Ruud calls

FROM PAGE 12
contribution, the Korean withdrawal on the hour mark along with John O'Shea as Sir Alex Ferguson introduced Gabriel Heinze and Cristiano Ronaldo.

SL pair shine

FROM PAGE 12
ground was less than half full for a match played out of South Africa's normal cricket season. SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Asian XI in the second match of the Afro-Asia Cup against an Africa XI at Kingsmead on Saturday:

Mahbub GS-elect

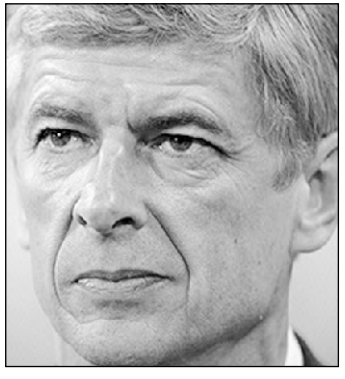
FROM PAGE 12
Shamim Arju, a councilor from Kushtia, was the other candidate who withdrew his candidature from the vice-president post.

AFRICA XI: Pollock, Dippenaar, Boucher, De Villiers, Rudolph, Prince, Kemp, Boje, Streak, Odoyo, Zondeki.

Table with columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Lists players like Sehwaag, Afridi, Sangakkara, Youhana, Inzamam, Razaq, Akhtar, Zaheer, Extras, Total, Fall of wickets, Did not bat, Substitutes, Bowler, and AFRICA XI players.

Wenger's milestone match

AFP, London
Ahead of his 500th match for the Gunners, Arsene Wenger admitted that he is still striving for perfection. Wenger's milestone game comes on Sunday at Chelsea, and the Frenchman concedes that his only thought will be how to topple Jose Mourinho's side who took the title last season.



ARSENE WENGER

But the 55-year-old from Strasbourg in France's eastern, Alsace region admitted he has no idea where any of his medals or trophies from his first 499 games are kept. The only thought he has is how to achieve further success. "It's 500 already but I feel like I arrived at Highbury yesterday. I can't believe I have 500 games," said Wenger, who played professionally as a sweeper for Strasbourg in the late 70s.

for them, that can sound a bit pretentious but the bad moments, they hurt you deeply." The bad moments for Wenger are the 89 defeats Arsenal suffered in all competitions during his 499 games in charge. Those that stick out however are the 2000 UEFA Cup final defeat, losing two Champions League quarter-finals and a 6-1 hammering at Old Trafford, as well as an FA Cup final defeat by Liverpool.

Rafa not after Owen?

AGENCIES, London
Rafa Benitez has once again rejected rumours he is planning to bring Michael Owen back to Liverpool as the Reds boss considers offers for Milan Baros.

Baros will remain in contention to play for The Reds while Benitez mulls over the offers, and the Spanish coach also scotched talk of fielding any enquiries for Djibril Cisse. "I was waiting for [a question about] Baros, maybe another one about Owen and maybe about Cisse," said Benitez. "Baros we don't have news on. We have a good offer from Olympique Lyon and another one from Aston Villa.

Reds to take part in World Club meet

AFP, Liverpool
Rafael Benitez has set his sights on adding the world championship to his team's European crown after finally confirming Liverpool's participation at December's World Club Championship in Japan.

world championship." The Reds face a congested schedule of potentially more than 70 matches this season if they progress to the later stages of all five cup competitions they will play in this season. As well as the World Club Championship, UEFA Champions League, FA Cup and League Cup, Liverpool will also play in the European Super Cup next week where they face CSKA Moscow of Russia in Monaco.

Federer sails, Safin fails

FROM PAGE 12
World number one Roger Federer rolled into the semifinals of the Cincinnati Masters on Friday while fourth seed Marat Safin was dumped out by American wildcard Robby Ginepri.

But once the Swiss, in his first event since he won a third consecutive Wimbledon title, had taken the first set it was plain sailing as he clinched a 6-4, 6-3 victory. "I have the feeling I'm back," Federer said. "My confidence is back. You lose it when you don't play, and you've got to earn it again. I am really happy with the way I'm playing now."

Zizou, Ronaldo to appear on Maradona show

REUTERS, Buenos Aires
Diego Maradona said on Friday that Real Madrid stars Zinedine Zidane, Ronaldo and Roberto Carlos had agreed to appear on his weekly television show, "La noche del 10" (The Night of the 10).

Djorkaeff faces old friend

AP, New York
MetroStars midfielder Yuri Djorkaeff will face Zinedine Zidane, his former teammate on France's 1998 World Cup champion, when a Major League Soccer select side opposes Real Madrid in a friendly next week in Spain.

Bayern give Ballack an ultimatum

AFP, Munich
German champions Bayern Munich have issued an ultimatum to German international star Michael Ballack giving him six weeks to decide whether or not he wants to stay at the Allianz Arena. Ballack is out of contract at the end of the season and Bayern have offered a lucrative four-year extension but are growing impatient at the player's reluctance to sign on the dotted line.

Steaua fined over Cisse abuse

AFP, Paris
Steaua Bucharest has been fined by UEFA after Liverpool striker Djibril Cisse suffered racist abuse in a Champions League qualifier at the Bulgarian club this month. The France international was subjected to monkey chanting from Steaua fans during the third qualifying round first leg tie on August 10, UEFA's match observer reported, resulting in a 19,500 euro fine.

Eriksson does it again!



Faria Alam and Sven Goran Eriksson.

THE SUN, London
England football manager Sven Goran Eriksson has been enjoying secret phone chats with ex-mistress Faria Alam in a bid to win her back, The Sun can reveal.

Mourinho lays down law

REUTERS, Cobham
Jose Mourinho showed new recruit Michael Essien what to expect if he crosses the Chelsea manager after giving defender Ricardo Carvalho a dressing down in front of his team mates this week.

Eng v Arg in Nov

AP, London
England will play Argentina in a friendly match in November if they don't have to compete in playoffs to qualify for next year's World Cup.

Media blast Klinsmann's selection

AP, Berlin
Germany's comeback from two goals down in a 2-2 draw in the Netherlands on Wednesday didn't stop the country's media from looking for scapegoats.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes crossword grid and clues for Across and Down.



JOSE MOURINHO

CRYPTOQUIP. Includes a grid of letters and a key for deciphering the message.