Promotion for Afghanistan

AFP, Dar es Salaam

Afghanistan crushed Italy by 93 runs on Friday to secure a fifth win in five matches and secure promotion to the Division Three of the World Cricket League.

The Victory represented Afghanistan's second successive promotion and their next aim will be to finish in the top two of the six-team Division 3 tournament in Argentina in January, which would mean they join 10 other sides at the qualifier for the 2011 World Cup in Asia.

Hong Kong defeated Jersey by 100 runs to seal second place, while Fiji's dramatic two-run win over Tanzania means that Jersey and Fiji will be relegated to Division 5 on net runrate, as all three teams were tied on two points.

Afghanistan posted an imposing target of 235 for Italy to chase.

Rais Ahmadzai led the way with 68 while Ahmad Shah (52) also played an important role.

In reply, Italy lost Thushara Kurukulasuriya to his first ball, before the Northcote brothers added 61 for the second wicket. But Italy's hopes suffered a blow when Andy Northcote (29) was run out by Ahmadzai.

"There was a little bit of tension amongst the guys last night, but the coach said we should go and play positive cricket," Ahmadzai told www.cricinfo.com.

"I was just concentrating on reading the wicket when I came into bat and then hitting the bad balls. The boys have done very well with the bowling, batting and fielding.

"We will try our best to win the final -- we've already beaten Hong Kong in this tournament and we will try our best to do it again."

Meanwhile, Butt Hussain was run out on 99 but his innings was instrumental in securing Hong Kong's passage to Division 3 with victory over Jersey

After some excellent opening bowling from Ryan Driver and Anthony Kay, Hong Kong stuttered their way through the early overs. But a 119-run partnership between Hussain and Skhawat (47) transformed the game as Hong Kong's experience and class began to show as it made a challenging 234.

Jersey needed a good start, but a fine bowling display, particularly from Irfan Ahmed (3 for 10), ended any hopes as they were reduced to 134 all out.

Gayle captain for Stanford Superstars

AFP, St John's

West Indies captain Chris Gayle was on Friday named skipper of the Stanford Superstars who will face England in the 20-million-dollar Stanford 20/20 on November 1.

The left-handed opening batsman will have Antigua and Barbuda captain Sylvester Joseph as his deputy.

"Our selection panel gave much thought to this selection and deliberated extensively and there was consensus that Chris is the man for the job, he's an experienced international cricketer, possesses a cool head and is the best man for the job in this all important match," said selection panel head Sir Vivian Richards.

In addition to his five international Twenty20 appearances, the 29-year-old Gayle has featured in 73 Tests and 186 one-day internationals.

SQUAD

Chris Gayle (captain), Sylvester Joseph (vice-captain), Lionel Baker, Sulieman Benn, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Lennox Cush, Travis Dowlin, Rayad Emrit, Andre Fletcher, Chad Hampson, Lindon James (wicketkeeper), Dave Mohammed, Kieron Pollard, Daren Powell, Darren Sammy, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Jerome Taylor.

Lara out

FROM PAGE 17

edition of the ICL earlier this year. "Lara now has a permanent problem on his left shoulder and will never be able to play the game actively and, therefore, is unlikely to play for the ICL in future as well,

Mody told Cricketnext. Lara was the most high-profile signing when the league was launched at the end of 2007 and was named captain of the Mumbai Champs. However, he had a forgettable stint, managing 31 runs at an average of 6.20 as his side finished at 146, Zaheer 5-91, Sharma 4-77) the bottom of the table. He retired from international cricket after the 2007 World Cup in the West Indies.



Rafael Nadal is the only man other than Bjorn Borg of Sweden to have won four consecutive French Open titles. The Spaniard won the titles over 2005-08.



Russian Vera Zvonareva plays a backhand return to compatriot Dinara Safina in the semifinals of the Kremlin Cup in Moscow yesterday.

Jankovic-Zvenareva final

Tennis

AFP, Moscow

World's number one and top seed Jelena Jankovic of Serbia battled back from a set down to reach the final of the Kremlin Cup, a joint ATP and WTA 2.4-million-dollar event, beating third seed Elena Dementieva of Russia on Saturday.

Jankovic, who is seeking her season's fourth title and third in a row here, won 0-6, 6-1, 6-0 in one hour 44 minutes to record her sixth win over Dementieva in their ninth head-to-head meeting and set up a meeting with home hope Vera Zvonareva.

Beijing Olympic champion Dementieva, who was playing her WTA career's 62nd semifinal, came into the match at full confidence, breaking her rival throughout the were not so effective. She

opening set to take it at love in 35

The start of the second set was almost a mirror image of the first as this time the 23-year-old Serbian, who was playing her season's 11th semi-final, looked in command, a pair of breaks taking her 4-0 clear. A further break saw her level at one set all after one hour 10 min-

In the deciding set, this year's US Open finalist Jankovic underlined her domination in taking it at love to make her season's sixth final

"Today I was in a desperate need of the finishing net shot," Dementieva said. "In the first set I played a active style and very productively. It was one of my very best performances in recent times."

"Unfortunately, in the remaining time of the match my attacks (Jankovic) has a phenomenal defence. I've got a feeling that she could keep under control not only a tennis court but the entire football In Sunday's final Jankovic will

face the seventh-seeded Zvonareva of Russia, who beat her compatriot Dinara Safina, the second seed, 6-2, 7-6(7/5) in one hour 31 minutes. Zvonareva, 24, currently ninth

in the world, looked in command from the start breaking twice in the opening set to take it in 32 minutes, while Safina experienced obvious problems with her first serve.

The second set went to a tiebreak, which Zvonareva won 7/5 to enter her sixth final of the season.

"I tried to perform my best

tennis today," Zvonareva said. "It

was my first ever Kremlin Cup semifinal and I wasn't under presteammates. sure and I really enjoyed playing "The reports of an interview

Asif hearing in Nov

utes on court.

Cricket

AFP, Mumbai

A tribunal in India has adjourned the hearing into doping allegations involving Pakistani fast bowler Mohammad Asif until November, his lawyer said on Saturday.

Asif, 25, tested positive for the banned steroid nandrolone during the Indian Premier League (IPL) competition held in April-June this year and has since been suspended from all forms of cricket.

"It was a preliminary hearing," Asif's lawyer Shahid Karim told

"The tribunal has adjourned the hearing to four weeks from now. They are yet to fix a date."

The tribunal comprised former reporters after he emerged from

India captain Sunil Gavaskar, Ravi Bapat, the former vice chancellor of India's Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, and lawyer Shirish Gupte.

Gupte said the tribunal heard objections raised by Karim during the day and will now begin its probe next month.

The whole day was spent on interim objections raised by Asif's lawyer about the maintainability of the case," Gupte said.

"The lawyer argued that IPL does not have the right to prosecute Asif as there is a separate antidope institution to hear such cases.

"So we reserved passing an order on the case. The actual recording of witnesses and other evidence will begin in November," he said.

Asif, who was mobbed by

the hearing, refused to make any comment.

He faces a possible two-year ban from international cricket since the IPL is sanctioned by the International Cricket Council (ICC) and any ban would automatically be adopted by the Pakistan Cricket Board as well.

The fast bowler also tested positive for nandrolone in 2006 along with fellow paceman Shoaib Akhtar. He was banned for one year and Akhtar for two, but the bans were overturned on appeal.

Asif further faces a possible ban or fine from the Pakistan Cricket Board after he was detained in Dubai, while returning from the IPL, on charges of possessing an illegal drug.

He was held for 19 days before police deported him.

Khulna, Barisal on top

FROM PAGE 17

Unbeaten on 54 overnight, Imran reached his hundred off 342 balls before becoming the last man out in the 124th over.

Sajidul Islam also reached a landmark, scoring 50 off 98 balls with six boundaries and a six. The two added 93 for the eighth wicket. Rajshahi paceman Alamgir Kabir ended with 7 for 76 from 32

But his side's batsmen struggled as they only reached 162-7 in 54 overs on the day. Sajidul yet again starred for

Barisal, taking six for 38 while Nasir Hossain took the other wicket.

BRIEFSCORES

Harbhajan

FROM PAGE 17

Gambhirlbw b Lee

Dravidlbw b Watson

Dhoni b Clarke

Kumblenotout

To bat: Sharma.

Bowler

Clark

Johnson

Watson

White

Clarke

Ganguly Ibw b Johnson

Zaheer Khan not out

Extras: (b-24, lb-9, nb-5)

KHULNA: First innings 178 and second innings 187 all out in 67.4 overs (Sadat 0, Rabiul 18, Mostafizur 0, Tushar 35, Sahagir 30,

AUSTRALIA: First innings 430

(Katich, 66, Ponting 123, Hussey

INDIA: First innings (overnight 68-0)

13

Sehwag c Hayden b Johnson

Tendulkar cWhite b Johnson

Laxman c Haddin b Johnson

Harbhajan c Haddin b Watson 54

Total: (For 8 wkts in 101 overs) 313

Fall of wickets: 1-70, 2-76, 3-94, 4-

O M

R

49

106, 5-155, 6-195, 7-232, 8-312.

Raihan 12, Masud 13, Ziaur 39, Dollar 31, Rabiul 2 not out, Aslam 0; Rov 5-43, Nabil 5-73).

SYLHET: First innings 74 all out in 34.2 overs (Imtiaz 0, Saikat 1, Mithun 13, Rahman 0, Rajin 0, Mowla 1, Sharifullah 16, Abul 17, Nazmul 11, Nabil 3 not out, Roy 0; Ziaur 3-20, Dollar 1-8, Aslam 1-7, Robiul 3-22, Aslam 1-7) and second innings 18 for 2 in 5 overs (Rahman 2, Imtiaz 1 not out, Nazmul 0, Saikat 6 not out; Ziaur 1-4, Dollar 1-6).

BARISAL: First innings 273 all out in 123.3 overs (Uttam 15, Hannan 15, Faruque 3, Imran 110, Nasir 10, Rony 5, Arafat 12, Shahin 10, Sajidul 50, Talha 7, Tariqul 6 not out; Alamgir 7-76, Suharwardi 1-34, Sabbir 1-16).

RAJSHAHI: First innings 162-7 in 54 overs (Shakil 42, Jahurul 8, Farhad 5, Anisur 18, Mashud 19,

Heroes win

attacked, Jimmy Maher, the opening batsman, stitched up one end and rotated the strike neatly. Rayudu's big hits were greeted by swaying cheerleaders and a delighted home crowd -- 20,000 people had packed into the sta-

In all this razzmatazz there was a bit of nostalgia too in the form of Saglain Mushtaq. That familiar exchange of the ball between the palms, the stuttering run-up, the high left-arm as he gets into a sideon position, and the familiar release -- they were all still intact. Even the old accuracy remained till Rayudu spoiled it in Saqlain's third over with two sixes: the first was hoisted over midwicket and the next one, a doosra, over long-off. Later in the chase another former Pakistan great was seen in action; Inzamamul Haq square-drove and then played a characteristic punch off the back foot. However the technical glitch served as an anti-

climax to the season-opener.

Mushfigur 34, Sabbir 13 not out, Suharwardi 0, Shahzada 9 not out; Sajidul 6-38, Nasir 1-12).

Manik picks

FROM PAGE 17 made his international debut almost ten years ago.

Bangladesh, who participated in the prestigious tournament last year after a long gap and failed to win a single match, have been invited for the October 15-25 meet in the Malaysian capital.

For the first time, national play ers will receive 50 dollars for play ing a game while the rest of the squad will get 25 dollars. Winning bonus for an interna-

tional match will be 200 dollars for each member of the squad while there is 100 dollars each for a drawn game although it was first rejected by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

player's family will get TK 20 lakh for accidental death while being with the national team and Tk 10 lakh for normal death. For injuries, the booters will get up to Tk 5 lakh for health/hospitalisation insurance. Bangladesh Football Federation

vice-president Badal Roy hoped that it would improve the players' display out in the middle. "We can expect more commit-

ment and better performance from the players," said Badal while describing the different perspective that the players can find themselves in. Bangladesh will meet Mozam-

bique for the first time in an international match when the two sides face off in their Group B match before meeting neighbours Myanmar in their second match on October 18. Their final group game will be against Vietnam on October 20 with all three matches taking place at the Shah Alam Stadium in the Malaysian capital.

SLC signing mega deal with India

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lankan officials will head to India next week to finalise a 40million-dollar deal with the Indian Premier League (IPL), the island's sports minister has said.

Gamini Lokuge said the deal would lead to the full participation of Sri Lankan players in the IPL and the Twenty20 Champions League for the next decade.

The proposed deal follows a recent decision to release Sri Lankan players contracted to the IPL from next year's tour of England.

"Our cricketers and our country can gain more benefits by participating in IPL matches. And therefore we are sending a team of officials to India next week to finalise it," Lokuge told parliament late Friday.

Lokuge said the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had also promised to reschedule the cancelled 2006 tri-nation oneday series featuring Sri Lanka and South Africa to next year.

And India have offered to play another tri-nation series in 2010 which will bring in close to 18 million dollars for Sri Lanka Cricket, the minister said.

SLC's chief executive Duleep Mendis will be part of the delegation that will fly to Mumbai on October 18 to finalise the deal with the BCCI, Lokuge said.

Ganguly didn't give interview

CRICINFO, undated

Sourav Ganguly has on Saturday denied comments attributed to him in a Bengali daily. While several Bengali papers have carried interviews with Ganguly, some controversial comments attributed to him in the Kolkata daily Aajkal deal with his omission from the Indian team and the inclusion of several

from a Bengali daily published in other newspapers are false," Ganguly's statement, read out in the press box by an Indian team official, said. "I have not given such an interview to anyone. I request you to clarify with me before publishing views from other sources."

"I have played badly in only one series (in Sri Lanka)," the Aajkal interview said. "Yet every Tom, Dick and Harry is playing in the team. There are players who haven't scored in the last three series for India, even for the last one year. There are some who have changed their hairstyle more than they have scored for India."

He said being dropped for the Irani Cup prompted him to call it a day and that he was tired of constantly being made the scapegoat in India's failures. "If there is a gun to your head all the time, how long can you bear this? After all, I have played 400 matches for India," the interview said.

His comments have evoked some sharp criticism. Dilip Vengsarkar, the former chairman of the selection which dropped Ganguly for the recent Irani Cup, said Ganguly will get "more than what he asked for", after the series is over.

Sunil Gavaskar said Ganguly should not have made these comments ahead of a crucial Test series.

Shoaib comes up with his idea

PTI, Karachi

Controversial paceman Shoaib Akhtar believes that the solution to Pakistan's cricketing woes lies in hosting a successful Pakistan Premier League (PPL) and insisted playing at a neutral venue was of no help.

Shoaib, who made a comeback to international cricket in the Twenty20 tournament in Toronto on Friday, said Pakistan cricket was going through its worst crisis as foreign teams have refused to tour In another unique move, a the country and consequently they are yet to play a Test match this year.

"I don't think the solution to revive our dying cricket is to play at neutral or off-shore venues. I would say that we must organise the PPL (Pakistan version of the IPL) as soon as possible," he told reporters in Toronto.

"The message we can give out through the PPL is that Pakistan is a safe place for cricket," he said. The fast bowler said if good

money was offered, foreign players

would show interest in playing in the PPL. "Playing at neutral or off-shore venues will not solve our problem of convincing teams that Pakistan is safe to play cricket," Shoaib said. He said there is no doubt if

for a few more months it will die a slow death. "It is the most difficult times for us. But we need to be firm and find solutions," he said.

Pakistan cricket goes without a Test

Ricky hails Greg's role

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Ricky Ponting has praised the coaching work of former Test great Greg Chappell in helping the Australian team adjust to the demands of batting in Indian cantinnings. conditions.

The Australian skipper overcame his Indian demons to compile his 36th century in the opening match of the Test series at Bangalore on Thursday.

Ponting's flawless 123 took him Saturday. to sixth on the list of all-time run scorers with 10,222 in 120 Tests, passing India's Sunil Gavaskar and just three Test centuries behind record holder Sachin Tendulkar's tally of 39.

He had averaged just 12.27 in

eight previous Tests in India

Chappell, who quit as India coach last year after the team's first round World Cup exit, is touring with the Australian team as their

assistant coach. Chappell played a role in helping Ponting prepare for what he believes was one of his most signifi-

"It's no rocket science, but Greg was obviously a great player and understands the technique of batting very, very well. He's a very, very good batting coach," Ponting told The Australian newspaper

to our side already and his role back in Australia (as head of the Centre of Excellence) will hopefully allow him to spend a lot more time with us in coming series," he

added. Chappell said he spoke to the players about technique but mostly about making sure they

developed a plan. "Batting's like life. It's about having a plan," Chappell said. "Ricky's very generous giving me any credit. He's the one who had to go out there and get the runs. He

batted exceptionally well. "Whenever he's made runs he's had a pretty simple plan. He stuck

"A hundred on the first day of the first Test makes a big statement as captain, particularly a captain who people were trying to put

Canada gets life back

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

In the late 1990s it looked as if Canada was set to become North America's home for visiting international sides. A large, primarily Asian, expat audience turned up in big numbers to a succession of tournaments, usually held in

The presence of India and Pakistan was crucial to the viability of the ventures, but as the political tension between the two escalated, the cricket sides became caught up and eventually India were forced by their government to pull out rather than face Pakistan. Without the prime draw, interest waned and the Toronto project was doomed. Soon after, the whole match-fixing saga broke and offshore venues for matches lost their appeal as the authorities looked to clamp down on bookmakers' opportunities.

But nine years later on, and there were never more than 1,300 Toronto is again hosting major cricket. Some would argue it's too late in the year -- early-morning Pakistan match. The earlier game temperatures struggle to hit 50 degrees -- but with the interna- terms of teams or time. The 9.30am some great cricket.

take what window you can get.

The event has been made possible by substantial sponsorship by a Dubai-based company. However, the build-up has been anything but ideal. West Indies were on the original cast list, along with Canada, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, but they pulled out as their board signed a deal to make all their players available to Allen Stanford. They were replaced by Zimbabwe, hardly an A -- or even B-list --

Promotion has been scratchy, not helped by rumbling uncertainty over the visa positions for two of the visitors. As late as Monday, both Pakistan and Zimbabwe were reported to be having difficulties. In the event, both made it, albeit with little time

Temporary stands, accommodating up to 10,000, have been built

in recent weeks, and the organisers

have been bullish in their predic-

tions of the turnout. In the event,

inside the ground on Friday, with

the bigger audience for the

was not so attractive, either in

tional calendar jam-packed, you start on a chilly autumn morning doesn't appeal to many.

The ground looks pretty good, the replay screens are big and the sightscreens impress. But the behind-the-scenes operation was hardly slick, with power outages and limited internet access for the media. What an event like this needs is publicity, and the PR machine has been, at best, spluttering into life. With a slicker operation, many more tickets might well have been shifted. Oh, and given that a picture is worth a thousand words, someone might have thought to ensure that there were photographers on the ground who would feed the world's media.

The hope is that the weekend will bring much bigger crowds, and talk is that when Sri Lanka play Pakistan tomorrow at 1.30pm in what should be a dress rehearsal for the final, there will be several thousand inside the hastily-constructed ground.

Despite the glitches and grumbles, just getting top cricket to Canada is an achievement, and the organisers deserve credit for that. What they now need is three days of good weather, more spectators and

Vettori breathes a sigh of relief

Styris c Zunaed b Mashrafe

Flynn b Nayeem

Vettoric & b Naveem

Oram not out

Mills b Shakib

Styris

Patel

Vettori

21 Swelled

23 Raw rock

24 Spot on

a die

26 Booth,

28 Enacted

31 Prior to

33 "Smoking

01-7"

then on

42 Mischie-

vous

group

warning

genus

game

48 Pinches

49 Stocking

51 Then

what

stuffer?

43 Links

45 Maple

47 Con

30 Lair

34 Beak

41 From

9 Pertaining 39 Doubled

by decree

look-alike

25 H

FROM PAGE 17 The New Zealand skipper was not happy with his side's batting performance but hoped that his guys will show their real character if they got a proper ODI wicket in

"It wasn't the greatest score and we are lucky that Jacob put some runs on the board for us. Once again we were scratched with the ball and Bangladesh bowled very well at the start and put pressure on "So it's another disappointing

batting performance, but on a difficult wicket. I don't think the wicket was very good for one-day cricket. We were lucky to get 212 and in the end it was good enough. Hope Chittagong will offer a true ODI wicket, "Vettori added.

Ashraful was also hopeful about the series deciding third match.

"In the last three games we put pressure on the opponents and won one game. Today our bowling and fielding was not bad and we will need all our three departments to click in the last game to make our dream come true," hoped Ashraful. SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second one-day international between Bangladesh and New Zealand at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur on Saturday:

NEW ZEALAND Ryderc&bRasel 30 McCullum c Zunaed b Rasel 12 How c Ashraful b Rasel Taylor c Zunaed b Shakib

ACROSS 37 Compass DOWN

38 Pismire

40 Appre-

hends

42 Condi-

44 Desert

"Send in

Clowns"

46 First

art

52 Papal

legate

54 Former

frog?

55 Inmate's

56 USPS

patron

57 Considers 18 Daze

Solution time: 27 mins.

dream

cupola

6 Football

refs

13 East

14 Bandit

15 Elabo-

rately

16 Roughly

preceder

19 Op. -

men-

20 Trawler

22 Web

part

24 Royal

sleep

27 Attend

32 Elvis

35 Marty

Robbins

"EI --"

36 Undraped

29 Carnival

thwarter

(where

tioned)

address

decorated the

17 Address 50 Tile

12 Bullring

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

1 Gloomy

3 Casaba,

2 Scraps

e.g.

4 Tide

5 Petula

Clark

classic

rapidly

7 Messed

6 Go

Up 8 Crib

toa

10 Con

11 Dele

response

undoe

12 Exces-

sively

Southee run out Extras: (lb-12, nb-1, w-2) Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs) 212 Fall of wickets: 1-31, 2-43, 3-44, 4-45, 5-86, 6-112, 7-115, 8-156, 9-167. Bowler Mashrafe Rasel Razzak Shahadat Shakib Naveem BANGLADESH Iqballbw b Mills Zunaed cVettori b Southee Rahim b Mills Ashraful c McCullum b Oram Shakib c Oram b Vettori Naveem run out Mahmudullah run out Mashrafe c Oram b Mills Razzak b Oram Shahadat run out Raselnotout Extras: (lb-5, w-1) Total: (All out in 42.4 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-18, 3-71, 4-86, 5-86, 6-106, 7-111, 8-115, 9-132. Bowler 0 33 Southee Oram

Result: New Zealand won by 75

Man-of-the-match: Jacob Oram. Toss: Bangladesh Umpires: Daryl Harper (AUS) and Nadir Shah (BAN) TV umpire: Akhtaruddin Match referee: Javagal Srinath (IND) Warne reveals

another antics PTI, London

Former Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne has admitted that he used to have late night drinking binges to battle his personal problems during the 2005 Ashes which Australia lost after 16 years.

Warne's marriage with Simone

was breaking up at that time, and

he found himself in a lewd text message scandal and was alleged to having affairs with several He said he would awake till 3 am in the morning sipping away drink after drink trying to forget the

personal issues after returning from the cricket field. "At night I'd lay there and go ..., when am I going to see my kids? There were times I'd sit there and drink my mini-bar until three in the morning, just to get to sleep. Set the

alarm, wake up and say 'here we go again," he told Daily Telegraph. "I cried a fair bit when I was by myself. 'what are you doing? What have you done?" he would say to

6 7 8 9 10 11

12							13					
14				1			15					
16					17	18				19		
			20	21				22	23			
24	25	26	П	27			28	Г	29		30	31
32			33					34				
35	-				36					37		
10		38		39	Г	40			41	Г		
42	43			44	45				46	47	48	49
50			51				52	53				
54							55					
58	1	1					57					

IRLO JSXVQ XVW VEBLQMLB

J DJXL-JZXZWO RVDUKJN, U

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE I HAPPEN TO REVERE NOTED MOVIE ACTRESS MILES, WOULD YOU SAY THAT I HALLOW VERA?

CRYPTOQUIP

OLSAVO RL IVZDK EL

SLDLEQJXUOC RJOAB-CUMUOC

happened?" 53 Manipu-Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals H

"I think all of us over the last couple of weeks have had opportunities to sit down with him to talk about our games and how we can best adapt them to these conditions."

to it and he got the rewards." "He's been a great acquisition under pressure," he added.