

Kumar seeks to conquer 'last frontier'

CRICINFO, undated

The Sri Lankan cricket team arrived in Mumbai on Sunday afternoon with captain Kumar Sangakkara promising their best in an attempt to conquer "the last frontier". Sri Lanka have yet to win a Test in India in 14 attempts but Sangakkara backed them to break a win-less, 27-year streak.

"We know we are good enough to win and match India if we really wanted to," he told Cricinfo before departing from Colombo. "We've just got to be tough as possibly as we can both mentally and physically if we are going to do well."

"We can go as all our teams have done in the past and come back and say well it's still unchanged or we go out there and give everything we got and win the last frontier for us in India and then take confidence from that and move onto the one-day series." Sri Lanka's last Test series in India ended in another loss -- they were drubbed 6-1 in the one-day leg -- and before the 2007 World Cup Sri Lanka were beaten 2-1 in a four-game ODI series.

DC Cup football

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Khepruchai Marma of Panchhari Upazila scored the first hat trick at the third Deputy Commissioner Gold Cup football tournament to lead his side to a comfortable 4-1 win over Laxmichhari Upazila at Khagrachhari Stadium yesterday. Ariful Islam scored the fourth goal for Panchhari while Mohammad Ershad pulled one back for Laxmichhari.

In the first match of the tournament, Matiranga Upazila defeated Manikchhari Upazila by 2-1.

Earlier in the day, Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong M.A.N. Siddiq inaugurated the 3rd DC Gold Cup Tournament as chief guest.

Inter-district football

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Kushtia district eleven blanked Rajbari district team 1-0 in the last match of the inter-district Deputy Commissioner Gold Cup Tournament's second round at the Magura stadium yesterday. Anwar scored the solitary goal for the winners in the second half.

Kushtia district team will take on Jessore Sonali Oit tomorrow in the first semifinal while Magura will Meherpur the following day.

Aussies seal

FROM PAGE 17
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-7, 3-23, 4-24, 5-27, 6-75, 7-75, 8-149, 9-170.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Johnson	9	1	39	3
Bollinger	10	4	35	5
McKay	10	1	44	0
Hauritz	9	2	19	0
Watson	8	0	27	2
Voges	2	0	4	0

AUSTRALIA
Watson c Sehwaq b Harbhajan 49
Marsh lbw b Patel 6
Ponting c Raina b Harbhajan 25
White lbw b Raina 25
Hussey not out 35
Voges not out 23
Extras: (b-6, lb-2, w-1) 9
Total: (For 4 wks in 41.5 overs) 172
Did not bat: Johnson, Manou, Hauritz, Bollinger, McKay.
Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-85, 3-90, 4-143.

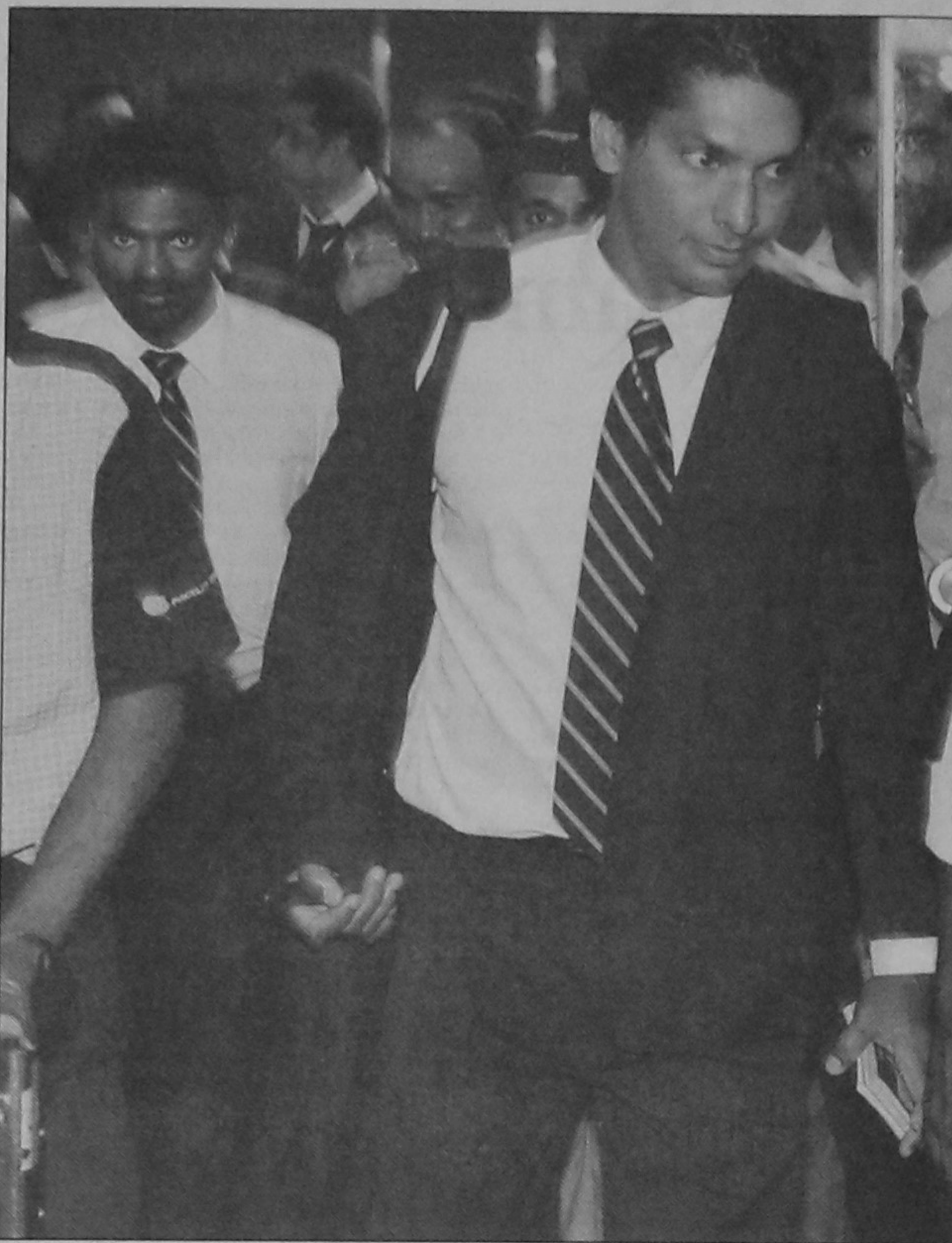
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kumar	2	0	10	1
Nehra	3	0	21	0
Patel	4	1	13	1
Jadeja	10	1	36	0
Harbhajan	10	1	23	2
Yuvraj	7	1	29	1
Raina	3	0	13	1
Sehwaq	2	0	8	0
Tendulkar	0.5	0	11	0

Result: Australia won by six wickets and lead 7-match series 4-2.
Man-of-the-match: Doug Bollinger.



Did U Know?

The biggest tragedy to befall the Serie A occurred in 1949 when an aircraft carrying the entire Torino FC squad crashed near Turin. All eighteen players plus club officials and journalists lost their lives.



Sri Lanka captain Kumar Sangakkara (R) and spin wizard Muttiah Muralidaran exit from the Mumbai Airport early yesterday. The Lankans arrived in India on a seven-week tour to play three Tests, two Twenty20 matches and five one-day internationals.

Federer sets up Djokovic final

Tennis

AFP, Basel

Roger Federer beat childhood friend Marco Chiudinelli 7-6, 6-3 on Saturday to clinch a 19th straight victory at the Swiss Indoors tournament and set up a final with Novak Djokovic.

Federer will be bidding for a fourth consecutive title here when he faces the second-seeded Serb, who saved three match points in spectacular fashion to win a dramatic semifinal over Radek Stepanek 6-7, 7-5, 6-2.

World number one Federer leads Djokovic 9-4 in their career series, standing 2-2 his season with his rival.

"Djokovic has been playing some solid tennis, he's stayed calm in tough situations twice this week in matches," said the Swiss.

"We usually have tough matches, it depends a lot on who has the better day. I'm happy where my game's at right now."

"But I hope to pick up a bit more speed for the final. The crowd will be on my side and that's an advantage."

Federer last lost in Basel in 2003 to Ivan Ljubicic, returned in 2006 and has won the last three editions.

Chiudinelli saved a set point in the combative

opening set, but then was passed on one of his own before Federer landed the tiebreaker.

Federer took control 4-1 in the second on his way to a 59th victory this season.

"I tried to be focussed, especially in the tiebreak," said Federer. "On this surface you can suddenly be down love-30, it can go quickly."

Djokovic, winner of three titles in 2009, moved into his ninth final of the year and remains the leader in ATP matches won in the season on 70.

He looked to be on the brink of a loss, trailing a set and 4-5 after Stepanek had taken the lead with his sixth ace in the previous game.

Facing three match points in the tenth game after a double-fault, Djokovic calmly saved two with winners while a Stepanek error accounted for the third.

A break in the next game for 6-5 and a forehand winner to end the set breathed new life into Djokovic.

The Serbian began the final set with a break and closed out Stepanek with a break in the seventh game and an error from the Czech a game later to escape in two and a half hours.

"I played well and I'm so happy to be in the final," said the winner. "The public really helped me when I was 4-5, love 40 down."

"I didn't serve very well and I had some luck. I'm happy after my second difficult match in a row."

Rezai wins in Bali

Tennis

AFP, Denpasar

Aravane Rezai claimed her second career trophy with a 7-5 win at the Bali Tournament of Champions as fellow Frenchwoman Marion Bartoli quit with a thigh injury after the first set Sunday.

Rezai's win should see her break into the WTA top 30 for the first time.

The victory in 62 minutes -- it ended on a Bartoli double-fault -- was the first all-French singles final on the Tour since Amelie Mauresmo beat Mary Pierce at the Paris Indoors in 2006.

The title was the second of her career for the 44th-ranked Rezai, following her win at Strasbourg in May.

"It's a great feeling to be here in the final, I'm very sorry for Marion that this happened," said

the winner of a career-best 200,000 dollars.

"I'd prefer to win in a different way, but it's tennis, a lot of different things happen. I was really motivated to win here."

Rezai now stands 2-2 in career finals after finishing runner-up in 2007 at Istanbul against Elena Dementieva and in 2008 at Auckland against Lindsay Davenport.

Bartoli dropped to 5-6 lifetime in singles finals after her disappointment on the tropical Indonesian resort island.

The number 12 had been bidding for a year-end number 10 finish had she claimed the trophy.

"I'm crying right now, but I'm so happy to be here," said Bartoli, runner-up at Bali three years ago when it was part of the regular WTA Tour.

"Aravane had a wonderful week and played some great tennis."

"My leg was hurting. I tried my best to carry on, but it was too much pain. I'm sorry I wasn't able to finish today."

Gazi keep losing

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just 37.5 overs. All six Kalabagan bowlers got in the wicket column, the most impressive though was left-arm spinner Enamul Haque with figures of 2 for 15 in eight overs.

At Fatullah, Sharifullah put in an all-round performance as in-form Biman got the better of Partex. Sharifullah's 62-run knock from 86 deliveries was the backbone of the Biman innings that got skittled for 192 in 48.1 overs. Sharifullah later bowled a miserly spell of 10 overs conceding only 18 runs taking one wicket to squeeze the Partex run-chase. There were two thirty-some scores in the Partex innings, but all-too-little for them to overhaul the Biman score.

Partex were not helped either by the five leg-before-wicket dismissals to their top five batsmen. Paceman Tareq Aziz took three wickets while

his opening-ball partner Talha Jubair took two wickets as Partex folded for 175 in 48.2 overs.

Victoria edged past Khelaghar at BKSP. Batting first, Victoria posted a healthy total of 217 for the loss of 8 wickets in their quota of 50 overs. It was a concerted effort from all down the order, the highest coming from the bat of opener Arman Hossain (50). Victoria skipper Mohammad Sharif scored second highest 36.

Khelaghar found it hard to score freely from the very beginning and kept losing wickets regularly. A 62-run partnership in the 7th wicket between Masum Khan (32) and Masum Khan (42) brought them back in the game, but Saju Dutta put paid to Victoria's hopes removing those two and the number eleven in quick succession to skittle Khelaghar out for 195 in 48.5 overs.

McCullum

FROM PAGE 17
one-day century in the final game of the three-match series.

"It's pretty satisfying to be able to play an influential role in a performance where we came away with a win. It's nice to have made a contribution," McCullum told Radio Sport.

"Personally it's been a reasonably lean sort of run of late in terms of big scores so it was nice to be able to get one in this series and hopefully build on that from here."

"You take away all the discussion if you get the job done. One performance certainly doesn't change all of that but it does give me the confidence to be able to consolidate my position at the top and try to win games for New Zealand at the start."

"I always want to bat at the top of the order as I see it as the greatest opportunity to be able to play influential roles. This was a step in the right direction for that."

Div I cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

City Club defeated Dhaka Wanderers by 47 runs in a high-scoring match of the First Division Cricket League yesterday. Rabiul Karim scored 72 while Rajiul Ahsan remained unbeaten on 63 to lead City Club post a daunting total of 274 for 8 in 50 overs.

In reply, Dhaka Wanderers got bowled for 227 runs in 46.5 overs, conceding a 47-run defeat. In the other matches of the day, Agrani Club beat Bangladesh Boys by four wickets, while Prime Doleshwar defeated Rupali Bank by six wickets.

Latif admits

FROM PAGE 17
innings, Pakistan rode on an unbeaten 138 from Inzamamul Haq to save the blushes. It was also alleged that the grounds-men cut the outfield grass the night before the start of the fourth day, a clear violation of the game rules, so that the ball could move faster towards the boundary.

An uneasy Latif however did not say anything about other incidents.

Latif was subsequently suspended for next five matches for bringing the game into disrepute. He also stepped down as captain after that three-Test series.

In that series, Bangladesh also played very well in the second Test at Peshawar. But a second innings debacle saw Bangladesh eventually lose the game by nine wickets.

Latif is currently the wicket keeping coach of the Pakistan youth team.

Amla leads

FROM PAGE 17
Cremer 10 0 47 1
Matsikenyeri 1 0 8 0
ZIMBABWE: Masakadza, Vermeulen, Taylor, Matsikenyeri, Taibu, Chibhabha, Utseya, Chugumbura, Cremer, Price, Mpofu.

Eng start

FROM PAGE 17
to Graeme Swann in the slips. Promising left-hander Rilee Rossouw hit four fours in making 17 off 10 balls but was caught behind off the first ball of Broad's second over.

James Anderson, Sajid Mahmood, Swann and Paul Collingwood also took two wickets each as the Eagles collapsed.

England were to play a second warm-up match against the Warriors franchise in Kimberley yesterday before returning to Bloemfontein for a Twenty20 match against South Africa A on Tuesday ahead of two Twenty20 internationals and five one-day internationals against South Africa.

Dido gambles

FROM PAGE 17
Defensive midfielders: Manik (Farashganj), Monayem Khan Raju (Feni Soccer Club) and Maruf Ahmed (Sheikh Russel). **Playmakers:** Shahedul Islam (Abahani), Alamgir Kabir Rana (Mohammedan), Emon Babu (Sheikh Russel), Mamunul Islam (Mohammedan), Imtiaz Sultan Zitu (Farashganj) and Choumrin Rakhine (Rahmatganj). **Strikers:** Enamul Haque (Abahani), Abdul Baten Komol (Mohammedan), Zahid Hasan Emly (Mohammedan) and Mithun Chowdhury (Chittagong Abahani).

Huge bonus awaits Ricky

Cricket

ANI, Melbourne

Australian captain Ricky Ponting will get the lion's share of a 20.3 million dollar bonus windfall in spite of his team losing the Ashes series to England this year and a tumble down the Test rankings.

A new pay deal is set to deliver an average of a million dollars a year to each of the 25 centrally contracted players.

Ponting was also paid an estimated one million dollars bonus last month, as all state and national players contracted since 2005 received an extra payment of about 16 per cent of their total income, reports the Sydney Morning Herald.

The payment is the result of Cricket Australia earning significantly more than expected over the past four years.

About 300 current and former players shared in the bonus, with some state representatives receiving more than 100,000 dollars.

Former Australian players such as Adam Gilchrist, Shane Warne and Justin Langer -- who were contracted for at least the first half of the four-year period

-- shared in the windfall.

And Damien Martyn is also understood to have received a hefty payment of at least 100,000 dollars, despite walking out of the Test team midway through the 2006-07 Ashes campaign.

The bonus payments were made because CA's revenue was about 100 million dollar higher than the 478 million dollars forecast in 2005 when the player deal was struck with the Australian Cricketers' Association.

"It is a credit to Cricket Australia and the players that the game has grown so much in the past few years. There has been an upward adjustment because revenue was higher than forecast," ACA chief executive Paul Marsh said.

Under the deal with CA, contracted players receive a quarter of all income generated by Australian cricket. But there is a provision to pay more if income is greater than the forecast.

Ponting is Australia's highest paid player and receives up to two million dollars a year from his CA contract. Endorsements and other deals are likely to push his annual income to five million dollars or more.

FED CUP FINAL

Italy in driving seat

Tennis

AFP, Reggio Calabria

Flavia Pennetta and Francesca Schiavone cruised to straight set victories to send Italy into a 2-0 lead in the Fed Cup final against the United States on Saturday.

Pennetta had no trouble seeing off Alexa Glatch 6-3, 6-1, while Schiavone came through 7-6, 6-2 against teenager Melanie Oudin as the US struggled without the Williams sisters.

World number one Serena pulled out while Venus was not selected.

Glatch, 20, may have won her only previous encounter against Pennetta but here the gulf in class between the two,

who are separated by 121 places in the world rankings, was obvious.

World number 11 Pennetta admitted the emotion of the occasion had almost got to her.

"When I came on court, and heard the anthem, I felt like crying," she said.

"But I managed to get a grip on myself, I didn't play a spectacular match but I played calmly. I think I was solid."

"I felt more pressure in the last few days before the event with the whole build up and expectation."

Glatch played a couple of loose service games in the first set and was broken at 1-1 and 3-5.

She came out determinedly in the second set and after a marathon game she broke the Italian at the fifth attempt. But

Pepsi-DRU cricket today

SPORTS REPORTER

Pepsi-DRU Cricket will be launched today at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium. A total of 29 teams will contest in the knockout tournament. Speakers at a press conference held on this occasion at the VIP Auditorium of DRU said these. The tournament is being organised by Dhaka Reporters Unity and sponsored by Transcom Beverages Limited.

Inter Pvt Uni football

SPORTS REPORTER

Presidency University recorded a 2-0 win over Stamford University in the Mentors' Inter-Private University Football Tournament at Army Stadium yesterday.

In the day's other match, Gono University and International University of Business Agriculture and Technology played a 1-1 draw at the same venue.

Northern University take on Brac University while North South University play against University of Asia Pacific today.

that proved a false dawn as it was the last game she won.

Pennetta rounded off victory by holding serve to love as she avenged her embarrassing 6-1, 6-1 defeat to the American in the first round at Roland Garros.

Glatch said Pennetta had improved since then.

"The conditions were also different. It was much quicker and hot that day and very dry, and I served extremely well, I remember," said the American.

"I was more aggressive in that match, and I probably should have tried to be in this match. I just wasn't able to do so. She definitely played better than she did last time."

Russel's

FROM PAGE 17
assistant for the next two matches as well as warned the players and officials terming their behaviour unacceptable.

Sheikh Russel's supporters also vandalized the chairs at the VIP gallery and later attacked the BFF headquarters to damage some furniture at the third floor following a dispute over the cancellation of Sheikh Russel's third goal against Arambagh on Friday.

Referee Tayeb Hasan ruled out Sheikh Russel's Samir Omari's strike in the stoppage time because of a foul on an Arambagh defender in a time when the match was locked at 2-2. The players and the officials protested the cancellation of the goal and the game was subsequently halted for 14 minutes before they calmed down to complete the rest of the game.



Players of Maple Leaf International School pose with the trophy after beating St. Francis Xavier Green Herald International School in the final of an invitational basketball tournament at the Dhanmondi Gymnasium recently.

PHOTO: COURTESY

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39 A	DOWN	23
1 Deviate from course	Bobbsey twin	1 Boo-boo's mentor	Confederate color
4 Soother	40 Bucks' eyes'	2 Unsigned (Abbr.)	24 Leak slowly
8 Region	41 Gibson of	3 Lumber	25 Lusty look
12 Yoko of music	42 West of Hollywood	4 Past	26 Enthusiastic
13 Always	43 Sailors	5 Sidestep	27 Pianist
14 Paradise	44 Zero	6 Meadow	Peter
15 Blimp	45 Mayberry	7 Perfect husband	28 Poi base
17 Church seating	50 Moppet	8 A Marx brother	29 Blackbird
18 Not all fresco	51 Appellation	9 Praise in verse	32 Attacks with arguments
19 Mischievous	52 West of Hollywood	10 Just out	33 Three-card scam
21 Stick with a kick	53 Use a teaspoon	11 Em halves	35 Clear the tables
22 101-digit number	55 Egos' counter-parts	16 Grandparent, often	36 Less authentic
26 Chipped in at the start		20 Extinct New Zealander	38 Reynards
29 "Eureka!"			39 Judd or Campbell
30 Fish eggs			42 Half (Pref.)
31 Equipment			43 "Zounds!"
32 Bankbook abbr.			44 Gets older
33 Labyrinth			45 Trot
34 Bobby of hockey			46 WSJ
35 Weight stat			news item
36 Vestibule			47 Pen point
37 Blunder			49 Cheerios grain

Solution time: 25 mins.

SWAM	ALBA	DOT
URGE	SOAR	OBI
MARCH	HARE	RIP
SPACE	JACK	NAMES
AX	ALAMO	
OATS	ALA	PUPA
FIE	MIR	SOD
FLAP	ICK	JEEZ
	PULSE	SO
SHAPE	SESAME	
HER	MADHATTER	
ART	OBFOE	LONG
MAY	NEED	EMUS

CRYPTOQUIP

J E S K M Y A S J L I M Y N J Q
G Q M V J L X S W J L Z X M S D Q E C Y
A I M V C Z Q I M D A M Y K C G D V
A I S A N M W M L L M D E M L L M D ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE THE PET RABBIT WOLFS DOWN LOTS OF MEDITERRANEAN BREAD, WE NAMED HIM PITA COTTONTAIL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals I