

Italy's ace striker Christian Vieri (R) scoring his second goal past Finnish goalkeeper Antti Niemi at Palermo's Renzo

# England on track, Germany stumble



**AFP,** Paris

England did the bare minimum on Liechtenstein 2-0 to stay in the hunt for a place in the finals of Euro

Goals in either half from Michael Owen and David Beckham just about disguised a patchy showing which left coach Sven-Goran Eriksson admitting that luck was on his men's side as they cut the gap on Group Seven leaders Turkey to two points.

Next Wednesday's home encounter with the Turks at Sunderland will now go a long way and gains an automatic ticket to the finals in Portugal.

"At least we got the three points. There was maybe a bit of a lack of concentration towards the end of the game. We gave them a couple of chances." Eriksson had to concede afterwards after his side won through with Owen's header on the half hour and Beckham's trademark freekick on 53 minutes.

Rampant Wales earlier had a much smoother ride as Mark Hughes's side made it four wins out of four by crushing Azerbaijan 4-0 in Cardiff

France were in equally dynamite form, crushing Malta 6-0 to top group one with a maximum 12 points, a double from stand-in skipper Zinedine Zidane helping the reigning champions on their

But World Cup runners-up Germany had a night to forget, being held 1-1 at home by Lithuania in group five, which cost them top spot to Scotland, 2-1 winners over Iceland, on goal

Wales opened the scoring after just 13 seconds.

Newcastle striker Craig Bellamy, in hot water for an alleged assault on an Asian nightclub doorman, took the advice of Hughes and club manager Sir Bobby Robson to channel his aggression in more positive fashion, his effort going in off visiting skipper Tarlan Akhmedov.

Bellamy's clubmate Gary headed the second on 40 m after Mark Pembridge whipp the cross and Celtic's in-form Hartson headed in the thir onds before the break from a Giggs cross.

Manchester United w Giggs netted the fourth h seven minutes after the restar



## **ESPN**

Sportscentre Hindi Sport News Live at 8:30 pm English Premier Football Leag Newcastle United vs Tottenham H

Repeat at 9:30 pm STAR Sports Sportsline Tonight Sport News Live at 8:00 pm

"We had to get the job done in Cardiff and we have done," Hughes told BBC Wales after his side extended their record unbeaten

campaign away to Serbia-Montenegro, Wednesday's date

their opening two qualifiers with a 2-1 win in Georgia.

An 85th-minute goal from Gary Doherty gave new coach Brian Kerr, replacing Mick McCarthy, a winning competitive start to his

Damien Duff put the Irish ahead before the break but the boys in green were living danger ously when Levan Kobiashvili

four points. The Irish are still three points adrift of Russia, who slumped to a surprise 3-1 loss in Albania - leaving the latter a point clear of Kerr's

de in third place.

in Armenia to all but snuff out their chances of qualification. The Northern Irish have now failed to score in seven games and succumbed to their fate when

Artur Petrosyan scored the only goal three minutes from time.

toppers Spain.

Scotland, meanwhile, showed they intend to push Germany all

France 4 4 0 0 17 11 2

The side must now wait until August to resume their Group Nine having been postponed owing to

While England huffed and puffed in the Alps and Wales breathed fire the Republic of Ireland bounced back from losing

However, Doherty's winner ensured the Irish can still live in hope of reaching next summer's finals although they still trail Group Ten leaders Switzerland by

Northern Irish eyes weren't smiling after Sammy McIlroy's team lost a Group Six encounter 1-

Ukraine drew 2-2 with table

# Brazil's Brazilian blow

Football

REUTERS, Oporto

Deco Souza crowned a spectacular debut for Portugal with the winning goal in a 2-1 victory over his native Brazil on Saturday -- their first over the south Americans

Substitute Deco converted a set piece in the 82nd minute after Brazil's Roberto Carlos was sent off for shoulder charging Israeli referee Alon Yefet in protest over the award of a free kick to Portugal. It was also trainer Luiz Felipe

Scolari's first win in charge of

Portugal, and came against the team he fashioned into world champions for a record fifth time less than a year ago. Portugal lost 1-0 away to Italy last month in Scolari's only other game in charge. As Euro 2004 hosts Portugal qualify automatically and

the tournament. "This was not about me, but the fans, who haven't had a win over Brazil for 37 years," said Scolari.

have only friendlies to play before

"That's history, I want them to make history and to score. Moreover, I want them to have a big chance to be remembered in 2004, not just as (world youth

champions) in 1991. Scolari also praised Deco, who played in front of what was largely a home crowd at the Antas stadium, where his playmaking has done much to give his club Porto their

overwhelming lead in the Portuguese premiership.

"He had to come on, and was going to come on. He even slotted into a position that wasn't his. But as Rui (Costa) was really inspired, Deco helped out," added Scolari, who was wary of starting the untried Deco alongside veteran

"He will help us out, on the wing, in the middle, wherever. That's the spirit I want in the team."

Portugal took the lead in the eighth minute when Sergio Conceicao crossed to Pauleta who evaded a challenge from Brazil captain Cafu to poke the ball inside the right post.

The home side settled into a confident passing game after that, yet all the scoring chances in the remainder of the first half went to

Rivaldo failed to score with only goalkeeper Ricardo Pereira to beat and Roberto Carlos twice hit the woodwork with powerful shots Ronaldo was also wasteful when

he chipped weakly into Ricardo's hands from close range.

Tempers became frayed in the second half as both sides were guilty of clumsy tackles on a wet

But Ronaldinho levelled for Brazil in the 65th minute, converting a penalty after Portugal winger Simao Sabrosa, playing in place of Luis Figo, had brought him down.

## Agassi thru'

REUTERS, Miami

the way in Group Five after a Lee

Wilkie header gave them a 2-1

success at Hampden Park over

cross to clinch the win after

Chelsea forward Eidur

Gudjohnsen had cancelled out

in an earlier embarrassing draw

with the Faroe Islands, made it

seven points from three matches

level with the Germans who could

only manage a 1-1 draw at home to

Scotland's German coach Berti

Vogts said following the first win at

Hampden Park in a competitive fixture of his reign that it looked in all probability as if his men were

place - but this was a good result.

"We are looking for a playoff

With Zidane standing in for the

injured Marcel Desailly as captain

defending champions France

impressed albeit against bottom of

Zidane notched a double, one a

penalty the other a header. Thierry

Henry was in double form too, with

Sylvain Wiltord and David

draw with the Czech Republic left

the pair equal on seven points,

although the Dutch, who had Ruud

van Nistelrooy to thank for their only goal, have better goal differ-

And Italy gave themselves a boost with a 2-0 win over Finland,

the goals coming from Christian

Vieiri, to put them second in group

meanwhile are being headed by

Denmark, Latvia and Bulgaria

Scotland 3 2 1 0 6 3 7

Germany 3 2 1 0 5 2 7

Groups two, four and eight

rezeguet also getting in on the act.

In group three Holland's 1-1

The Scots, who dropped points

Kenny Miller's early opener.

Lithuania on Saturday night.

headed for the playoffs.

lceland gave us a hard time.

Wilkie headed in Paul Devlin's

Andre Agassi has given Spain's Albert Costa a lesson in hardcourt tennis after romping to a 6-2, 6-4 win to reach his eighth final at the Nasdaq-100 Open.

The American, who has dominated the tournament since 1990, picked off the ninth seed's serve with deadly accuracy in the second semifinal of the 3.25 million dollars (two million pounds) hardcourt

Agassi, seeking a record third successive title here and sixth overall, moved through to the final on Sunday against fifth seed Carlos

Moya and Agassi have met twice before, with one victory each.

"Carlos will have a bit more firepower than Al, although with that said, there are always ways to get guys," Agassi said.

## Latif BCB's surprise

FROM PAGE 8 lishing the image of the country's lone sports institute as a breeding ground for disciplined, hardworking and dedicated future stars. He has also been involved with various sports bodies most notably with the Bangladesh Boxing Federation.

His association with the BKSP lasted for three years. Although he never played the game at any significant level, he feels that his passion for cricket will carry him through in this critical juncture for

"I still haven't planned anything as I have to know my actual role and the term. But as I have been entrusted with the responsibility of a team that the whole nation looks up to, I'll give my utmost effort to live up to that expectation," said Latif in his instant reaction to the Daily Star.

" My first job would be to lift the team morale and establish a spirit de core among the players as they have really suffered from the World Cup debacle. I will also look to instill the motto 'strict discipline, hard work and hard training in the players' hearts as I did with the BKSP Cadets during my time there," added Latif.

Latif will form a unique combination with Imran who was the cricket coach at BKSP when Latif

" I have known him (Latif) as a dedicated and an extremely hardworking person. I don't mind a non-cricketer as manager as long as his involvement is focused on non-technical aspects.

Imran, who had been associated with the national squad in various capacities before, said that he was looking forward to working with the team again.

" I am aware that this is an interim appointment but I'll try to get a combination going. My longterm association would be with the A Team set up and the fast bowl-

## Kenya minus

FROM PAGE 8

Bowler Jimmy Kamande, who was dropped from the World Cup squad has been recalled.

Nipun Patel will manage the team. The Kenyan team will leave Nairobi on Tuesday and play

Zimbabwe in their first match on Steve Tikolo (captain), Maurice Odumbe, Hitesh Modi, Brijal Patel, Martin Suji, Tony Suji, Odoyo, Kennedy Obuya, Joseph Angara, Peter Ogondo, David

Obuya, Collins Obuya, Jimmy

Kamande, Alfred Luseno, Maurice

## Rain curtails

FROM PAGE 8 Victoria SCvBrothers Union Venue: BKSP BROTHERSUNIONFirstinning SalahuddinstSalimbSabbir 55 Shahriar b Razzak Halim Shah batting Extras: (b-8, lb-1, nb-1) Total(F

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vickets: 1	-48,2-9	2.			in charge of all age group team local coach should train		
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	6	1	21	0	should be sent abroad on reg		
iq	8	1	26	0	basis so that they get to know a		
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Manzarul CityClubvUttaraSC

Venue:DCS	
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ShafiulbSaifullah	29
Faisal b Saifullah	18
SumoncTareqbJamaluddin	1
Monirulbatting	4
RashedcKadirbTareq	8
ArmanlbwbSaifullah	1
Debabrata c Jamaluddin b Saifullah	0
Aslam batting	0
Extras: ((b-4,lb-3,nb-4)	11
Total: (For8wktsin33 overs) 8	37
Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-41, 3-58, 471,6-79,7-84,8-87.	1-71, 5-

"But the AGM was not required as the AFC later extended the date up to April 30 in December." Sultan

## Top-ordered

FROM PAGE 8

lone Bangladeshi player to have scored a hundred in one-day international.

The return of Javed at the top also reflected a change of heart by the selectors, who ruled the doughty right-hander out of the World Cup squad ignoring popular

never been a spectator's delight with his limited stroke play, but Javed is matchless when it comes to occupying the crease. He is only the second player in the history of Test cricket to carry the bat through an innings.

call-up in the senior team since he made his debut in the one-day home series against Pakistan in The tri-nation tournament that

also involves India will start on April 11. After the one-day meet, South Africa will play the first Test in Dhaka starting on April 24. The second Test in Chittagong starts from May 1. **SQUAD** 

Omar Belim, Mehrab Hossain, Mohammed Ashraful, Habibul Bashar, Akram Khan, Alok Kapali, Tushar Imran, Khaled Mashud (wicketkeeper), Sanwar Hossain, Mohammed Rafique, Taposh Kumar Baishya, Monjurul Islam,

## Portugal's Rui Jorge (R) checks Brazil's Cafu during the friendly at Antas Stadium in Porto on March 29. Points to ponder

suspect actions in premier league.

6. Audio and video classes will enrich a player's knowledge about the game and his opponents. Video analysis will pinpoint the weaknesses and strength of each of our players and as well as their opponents. This will immensely help our players, both physically and mentally, while playing against other Test playing nations.

7. Each players should have his batting, bowling and fielding recorded so that they can see for themselves what kind of mistakes they are making and how to rectify it. This has to be compulsory during a match and practice session. Perhaps, a technical analyst (with a cricket background) should be employed to take care of this

## **Champions**

and there's some very good young players - Sarwan, Samuels, (Chris) Gayle, (Wavell) Hinds, then you've got (Shivnarine) Chanderpaul, Lara, (Carl) Hooper and (Ridley) Jacobs there so it's an excellent

like a good bowling prospect and then you've got Merv Dillon and we've come across a few other blokes. "They're going to be a lot

tougher than people give them credit for and we certainly won't be underestimating them. "They went through a tough phase for a few years there and

they seem to be more together. "(Chairman of selectors) Viv Richards seems to have quite a bit of say in West Indies cricket, which is good for them, and world cricket

needs them to come back.

they've rebounded fairly well and

Whether the Windies can defy the odds and upset Australia in four Tests probably hinges on how Waugh's team copes with its gruelling schedule.

"Realistically the (World Cup players) haven't had a lot of cricket so I don't think tiredness will be a factor," Waugh said. "It's more the homesickness factor and being away from Australia. That's the toughest thing to overcome.

Batsman Damien Martyn will miss the start of the tour after fracturing his right index finger while fielding during the World Cup tournament.

38 Beyond

41 Reunion

Focus

47 Literary

48 News-

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16 Sherlock's 53 "Tosca" or

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## crown **REUTERS, Miami** 9. Bowling machines should be used in practice of all age groups, schools, colleges, clubs and national team. We do not have

genuine quick bowlers but we need

to practice against very fast deliver-

ies, which is only possible by the

bowling machine. Bowling

machine is also capable of bowling all kinds of deliveries i.e. fast,

medium, slow or any kind of spin.

10. Discipline in the team must

have to be maintained strictly.

Strict measures should be taken

against an indisciplined player,

11. Set aside politics and per-

sonal interest in the Board.

Everyone should together for the

Bangladesh will not improve over-

night, nor in a few years. It will take

years of sincere efforts and dedica-

tion to achieve that goal. We need

reform cricket managers (Board), then the clubs and finally the play-

ers. -- (The writer is a former Bangladesh opener)

Newcomer Nasirabad Govt High

School of Chittagong maintained their winning run in the Metro

Group National School Hockey

Tournament final round beating Police Lines High School of

Faridpur 1-0 at the Maulana

Bhasani National Stadium yester-

River View High School of

Rajshahi defeated Arjat Atarjan High School of Kishoreganj 5-1 in the day's other match.

Zim agreed

21 Polecat

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a text

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living

11 Alway

Solution time: 28 mins

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reach

7 Hideaway

— mater

Nat'l school

hockey

UNB, Dhaka

The reality is that cricket in

betterment of the game.

even if he is the best cricketer in the

Top seed Serena Williams has come back from a set down to beat Jennifer Capriati 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 and win her second consecutive Nasdaq-100 Open title.

Serena keeps

It was the world number one's seventh straight win over Capriati, who was attempting to celebrate her 27th birthday by finally winning a tournament in which she was runner-up to Serena last year and her sister Venus in 2001.

Williams had to fight for her victory on Saturday in a final lasting just over two hours in temperatures near 100 degrees Fahrenheit and in which the Heat Index Rule, allowing the players a 10-minute break at the end of the second set, was invoked.

Although Williams was not moving around the court as fluidly as usual, and made an uncharacteristic 42 unforced errors, the holder of all four grand slams always seemed to have enough in reserve to deal with any threat from her fellow American.



Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm April 11, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards Who was the man-of-the

World Cup? Ganguly Lee 2. Who was the man-qf-the-match in the World Cup final?

tournament in the Cricket

FROM PAGE 0							
(England) are looking to tour	2. Who was						
Zimbabwe in October 2004 and we	in the World Cup final?						
are looking forward to the tour,"	Ponting	Bichel	McGrath				
Hogg said.	3. What wa	e the lewest	coro in th				
"England have learnt from their			score iii iii				
experience," he added. "They	World Ci	ıp?					
expressed regrets and I'm sure they don't want a repeat of the World	36	40	43				
Cup situation."	4. What wa	o the bigh	ot core i				
-		0	sst score ii				
Hogg said Zimbabwe were still disappointed by England's deci-	theWorl	u Cup:					
sion not to play their match in	359	345	394				
Harare on February 13.							
"We do feel let down," he said.	Nama						
"We gave every assurance about	Name						
security and it was proved quite							
categorically that everything was	01	D . II N	_				
fine and they could have come to	Class	KOII N	5				
Zimbabwe."	School Ad	dress					
Zimbabwe are due to play two							
Tests in England, at Lord's and							
Chester-le-Street, Durham, and a	Phone: (If	anv)					
one-day tournament against the hosts and South Africa.		<u>,,</u>					
nosts and south Antea.							
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**CRYPTOQUIP** 

VBOGY MSR ERUFBW VSB URFEBWEKCGR

EOMMKWI TUTKW KW FKGBP T NBYYRU NKIOUR: Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NEW FILM DETAILING HOW PEOPLE MIGHT RESPOND TO CROW

CALLS: "CAWS AND EFFECT" Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals T

The Cryptoguip 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

## **STANDINGS**

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gue	Poland		1	1	1	2	1	4	Estonia	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
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Fallofw

Bowler Saiful Mushfie Sabbir

"This (Jermaine) Lawson looks

M RW Tareq

## **Sultan defensive**

FROM PAGE 8

NSC act in the parliament. That's why we though of holding an AGM and ask AFC to give us more time.

his career. The 24-year-old is the

Though the 26-year-old has

For Tarek Aziz it is the second

Khaled Mahmud (captain), Javed Tarek Aziz Khan and Talha Jubair.