No curfew for

REUTERS, Berlin

The German government has given partial permission for fans watching World Cup games on giant screens to continue celebrating - or drowning their sorrows - deep into the

Wednesday that exceptions to regulations banning loud celebrations after 10pm should be tolerated to allow the fans to enjoy the June 9-July 9 soccer extravaganza for longer.

to the cities. They will have to decide until what time their World Cup parties can go on.

Cricket talent hunt

SPORTS REPORTER

Cricket Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB), will soon begin a programme called 'In search

country will be divided into four different zones each consisting five districts. A team of six, consisting a national player and a coach, will be present on a particular day.

Wednesday. The managing director of 5P Events Abdullah Al Mamun, CWAB advisor and coach Jalal A. Chowdhury, former Bangladesh captains Naimur Rahman and Khaled Mahmud and other former players were present in the meeting.

SA focus

but South Africans believe the result was skewed by a declaration in the third and final Test in Sydney.

South Africa were in a strong position before rain washed out most of the fourth day.

the series. South Africa set Australia a target of 287 in 76 overs, which the home side achieved with eight

SQUADS

Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs Andrew Hall, Jacques Kallis Garnett Kruger, Andre Nel, Makhaya Ntini, Shaun Pollock, Ashwell Prince, Jacques Rudolph. AUSTRALIA: Ricky Ponting (captain), Adam Gilchrist, Stuart Clark, Michael Clarke, Matthew Hayden Michael Hussey, Michael Kasprowicz, Justin Langer, Brett Lee, Stuart MacGill, Damien Martyn, Andrew Symonds, Shaun Tait. Shane Warne.



Michael Wenden of Australia currently holds the record for the most Commonwealth Games gold medals won by a male (nine gold at three successive Games - 1966, 70 and 74).





Ronaldo (Brazilian football super star)

"I was disappointed with Pele, he's a two-bob opportunist.

WC parties

The government accepted on

The final word, however, belongs

5P Events, in association with of cricket talent' across the country.

Under the programme, the whole

The cricketers' skills will be tested through batting, bowling and fielding sessions. Sixty cricketers will be given cricket equipments and other exciting prizes. The second round of the programme will be held in Dhaka. A training camp will be organized with the final selection of cricketers, where they will be coached by nationally renowned coaches as well as being advised by national cricketers.

A meeting was held in this regard at a local hotel on

FROM PAGE 12

home series 2-0 earlier this season

In an attempt to get a win to share

SOUTH AFRICA: Graeme Smith (captain), Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, AB de Villiers, Boeta



Gaibandha cricket **OUR CORRESPONDENT**

defeated Brave Heart Sporting Club

the Gaibandha Stadium yesterday. Gaibandha Cricket Coaching Centre scored 219 runs losing all their wickets in 49.1 overs. In reply, Brave Heart were bowled out for 155 runs in

Saiham of Gaibandha Cricket Coachin scored 39 runs and captured two wickets to be declared man of the

FROM PAGE 12

asked to take part for the respective divisions in the ninth-round National League matches. They have been requested to report to team coordinator Sharif Mahmud Palash at the Sonargaon Hotel on March 20 at 8pm. SQUAD

Nazmus Sadat, Sakib Al Hassan,

Officials: Shaun Williams (coach)



Inter Milan forward Adriano tries to get the better of Ajax defenders Thomas Vermaelen of Belga (L) and Juan Francisco Garcia during their Champions League clash at the San Siro on Tuesday.

Inter home and dry

CHAMPS LEAGUE

Inter Milan became the third Italian team to reach the quarterfinals of the Champions League after they beat Ajax 1-0 here on Tuesday.

Dejan Stankovic's unstoppable drive 12 minutes into the second half secured a narrow victory over the Dutch outfit for a 3-2 aggregate score in the last of the eight first knockout round ties.

It also saved the blushes of Inter's Brazilian striker Adriano whose first-half penalty miss could have proved costly.

Had he scored, he would have equalled the club record of 16 Champions League/European Cup goals, currently held by 1960s Inter legend Sandro Mazzola.

The match saw the return of Inter fans to the San Siro after their fourmatch spectator ban imposed by UEFA ended. The ban was handed to Inter

following crowd trouble at the stadium in last season's Champions League. Inter, who join Serie A rivals AC Milan and Juventus in the last eight,

next face Spanish side Villareal. Inter coach Roberto Mancini said his side should have killed the match off much sooner.

"We created a lot of chances, but we weren't clinical enough," he "We kept working hard and most

Ricky Ponting is unsure who will get

the nod as Brett Lee's new-ball

partner in the first Test against

South Africa starting on Thursday

Australia are heavily favoured to

pick the spinners Shane Warne and

Stuart MacGill on a surface

expected to turn and Stuart Clark

and Michael Kasprowicz are the

leading contenders for the second

much as anything," Ponting said in The Australian. "I spoke to the

Newlands groundsman leading up

to the one-day game, and he

seemed to think it might spin a bit

here in the Test match. If we go in

with two spinners, then as to which

Ponting said the decision could

rely on how the fast men, including

the spare bowler Shaun Tait, per-

other quick I'm really not sure yet."

"It's going to be wicket-reliant as

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

fast-bowling place.

mportant thing was to qualify. Ajax coach Danny Blind admitted

drawing 2-2, had left them with too much to do You could say we lost the tie

the first leg in Amsterdam, which the

Dutch side led 2-0 at half time before

three weeks ago," he said. That result meant we had to keep it tight and hope for a little luck,

and for 55 minutes the game was going just as we wanted. 'We survived a few scares, including the penalty, and then we

started to get more space. "Unfortunately we weren't able to exploit it as much as we would have

liked and then Inter scored. That changed everything.' Mancini opted for the pace of Obafemi Martins rather than the craft of Uruguayan Alvaro Recoba to

Mancini had insisted Inter would not sit back and he was true to his word with the home side making all

Luis Figo curled a shot over the clear from Adriano.

the ninth minute when Nigerian international Martins fired a dipping left-footed volley against the cross-

Inter persisted and only a lastditch clearance from Hedwiges Maduro prevented Martins from tucking away Figo's right-wing

form in the nets. The Australians

had a full session on Tuesday and

will have a top-up training today as

they attempt to gain Test focus in the

three days after Sunday's dramatic

one-day loss. "It might just come

down to whoever impresses the

the entire tour and his similarities to

Glenn McGrath were expected to help

him towards a Test debut. However, he

has been part of the one-day attack

belted by South Africa and

Kasprowicz, who picked up 44 Pura

Cup wickets this summer, could play

his first international match since Trent

four victims in his past four matches

at an economy rate of 5.82, has

impressed Ponting. "He's bowled

beautifully," Ponting told AAP. "He

hasn't bowled with the new ball, but

The work of Clark, who collected

Bridge in 2005.

Clark has been with the squad for

most in the nets," Ponting said.

Italy's dominance in Europe REUTERS, Milan

Inter confirm

Inter Milan confirmed the strength of Serie A sides in Europe when they beat Aiax Amsterdam 1-0 to set up a Champions League quarterfinal against Villarreal.

Tuesday's win, which completed a 3-2 victory on aggregate, made Inter the third Italian club to reach the last eight of this season's competition after Juventus and AC

It is the third time in the past four seasons that Italy has had three teams in the last eight of Europe's flagship club competition.

Inter president Giacinto Facchetti, a member of the Inter side that won back-to-back European crowns in 1964 and 1965, hailed their win over Ajax as "a result that confirms the dominance of Italian clubs in Europe."

Inter are generally considered the weakest of Italy's trio but midfielder Dejan Stankovic, who scored Tuesday's winner, believes they can lift the cup.

So what if Villarreal are unbeaten in Europe this season? there is always a first time," Stankovic was quoted as saying in La Gazzetta dello Sport on

"The important thing will be not to underestimate Villarreal like we did with Ajax in the first leg in Amsterdam," he said, referring to the two early goals Inter conceded before going on to snatch a 2-2

"This performance shows we can go all the way in the Champions

As they scan the quarterfinal and semifinal draws, many Italians will feel quietly confident of at least one of their teams reaching the final in Paris on May 17.

BCCB finally

FROM PAGE 12 Selection Committee: Faruque Ahmed (chairman), Athar Ali Khan (member), GM Nowsher Prince (member).

Committee: Khondoker Jamil Uddin (chairman), Ali Hossain (member-secretary) Tournament Committee: Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen (chairman), Asaduzzaman Khusru (vice-

Game Development

Umpires Committee: Kazi Yusha Mishu (chairman), Abdullah Al Fuad Redwan (vice-chairman), Sailab Hossain Tutul (member-

Grounds and Facilities Management Committee: Rafiqui Islam Babu (chairman), Syed Zahid Hossain (vice-chairman), Sirajuddin

Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis (CCDM): Khondoker Jamil Uddin (chairman), Jamil A Sattar (member-secretary).

Marketing and Commercial (chairman), Mirza Salman Ispahani vice-chairman), Syed Farhad Ahmed (member-secretary).

secretary). Tender and Purchase

Media and Communications Committee: Reazuddin Al Mamoon (chairman), Syed Farhad Ahmed

Audit Committee: A Quiyum Chowdhury (chairman), ATM Tariguzzaman (member).

No interest

FROM PAGE 12

tickets will cost Tk 60, Special enclosure Tk 300, VIP Club-house Tk 750, VIP (Gate-2) Tk 1,500, VIP (Gate 1) Tk 2,000 and hospitality box (non-AC) Tk 1,500 respectively. The City Bank has been handed

over 11,000 tickets to sell from King's job

FROM PAGE 12

be made in the running of regional structure of West Indies first-class cricket, which they said needed to undergo considerable change so as Plan; the reintroduction of a central cricket academy with a vastly improved structure, and the establishment of satellite academies within the territories which would greatly enhance the effectiveness of the central academy; the need for a process and a system to be put in throughout the region; and the need to appoint a West Indian understudy succession planning.

East left out in the cold



Just one of the venues and one of the teams in the soccer World Cup in Germany will be based in the former communist east, making the already depressed region a sure loser of the championship.

Ukraine has announced that it will hunker down close to Potsdam, just outside Berlin, for the event running June 9-July 9 -- a lonely present for the part of the country most in need of a boost. Holders Brazil will set up near the

move north to Cologne for the rest of the competition. The French will pitch up at a chateau in Aerzen, a suburb of Hanover, northern Germany while the Argentinians will move into

business capital Frankfurt then

sportswear manufacturer Adidas. The German team meanwhile will be based in Berlin, but in the west of the capital.

Herzogenaurach, the hometown of

Even countries with long ties to the former East Germany such as Angola chose the west, raising fears that the World Cup's 2006 slogan, "A Time To Make Friends", will leave

out potential new mates in the east. Of the 110 hotels recommended for the teams in the catalogue published by the World Cup organizing committee, just 16 are in the

"The choice of the base camp is solely the prerogative of our guests," the committee's viceoresident Wolfgang Niersbach said.

Yet only five of the matches will take place behind the old Iron Curtain, all at the Zentralstadion of Leipzig, although the Olympic Stadium in the former West Berlin will host six matches including the Eastern cities such as Dresden,

Rostock and Magdeburg had been n the running to host matches but their stands accommodate fewer than 40,000 fans and thus did not fullfil the criteria of world football's governing body FIFA. Axel Schulz, a spokesman for

the Rostock club, Hansa, said: "Hosting the World Cup was eventually not an issue for us because our stadium just isn't big enough." Leipzig built an ultra-modern

45,000-capacity venue especially for the event, even though the city does not have its own professional For organizers, the sub-standard

infrastructure justifies the east getting the cold shoulder.

when you're in the east than when you're in Frankfurt, right next to a big international airport or west of that in the Ruhr Valley region where there are 20 matches taking place within a 50-kilometer radius," Niersbach

"It's a logistical advantage."

Some have also raised concerns about possible racist attacks against players, particularly Africans, if they settled in the east where violence against foreigners frequently makes headlines -- a point organisers dismiss.

"That was never addressed," Niersbach insisted.

"You should not over-interpret the decision to set up here or there as being political because most of the time it was simply the coach's

The east is nevertheless feeling like a poor relation ahead of Germany's major chance to show case itself on the world stage. This season, for the first time in

the 15 years since German reunification, not a single team from the east is playing in the first division. the Bundesliga Hansa Rostock were relegated

to the second division at the end of

Chelsea

winning

Ballack race

Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho

revealed Monday that the west

Londoners had made Ballack, out of

contract at the end of the season, a

lucrative offer and Bayern general

manager Uli Hoeness conceded

then it will be a lot more lucrative

than Bayern's so there is no point

talking about it any more," Hoeness

that we can not measure ourselves

against and that is Chelsea. We just

told magazine Sport Bild.

"If he has an offer from Chelsea

"There is one club in the world

Match-fixing plagues Bundesliga

Football

AFP, Berlin

The jailing of disgraced referee Robert Hoyzer in November was supposed to bring an end to the match-fixing scandal that rocked German football but a report on Wednesday claims Hoyzer was just the tip of the iceberg. 'Plusminus', an online sports

German international, were also involved in illegal mafia betting. Plusminus cited an insider as their source and prosecutors in Munich confirmed they had opened

magazine for the respected German

television channel ARD, claims

an investigation on the basis of the evidence provided. "It is too early to accuse an individual player and we do not want

be collected before any action is If the allegations are confirmed it

host this summer's World Cup. In January 2005, referee Hoyzer, 26, blew the lid on a match-fixing scandal when he admitted to fixing four matches for financial gain.

The tainted official had been

Singer Dame Kiri Te Kanawa

then performed "Happy Birthday" in

honour of the monarchs impending

80th birthday in April, including a

snippet of "God Save the Queen" in

Goodrem performed as in-line

skaters trailing jets of sparks set off

a pyrotechnic display across the

stadium's Colosseum-style roof and

throughout the sports-mad city of

sports, with Australia expected to

found to be carrying a side strain

while the left-arm fast bowler

Ruchira Perera also has a side

strain. "We have vet to decide as to

whether any replacements are to be

called. The Chairman of selectors

Lalith Kaluperuma should finalise it

after consultation with the team

The Games will feature 16

In a final flourish, singer Delta

taking bribes from a Croatian mafia circle based in Berlin and he named and shamed others involved in the match rigging. In November, Hoyzer was sen-

can not compete financially." tenced to two years and five months Chelsea, bankrolled by billionin jail and another former referee, aire Russian owner Roman Dominik Marks was given an 18-Abramovich, are reportedly ready to month suspended sentence. make the 29-year-old Ballack the world's highest-paid player with a

weekly salary of 121,000 pounds (177,600 euros, 210,900 dollars). Ballack turned down a four-year contract at Bayern in January and the German champions have targeted Barcelona's Dutch international Mark van Bommel as a

replacement. Boro fan stabbed in Rome

AFP. Rome

Italian and English football fans clashed in Rome late Tuesday on the eve of a UEFA Cup match between Roma and Middlesbrough, with police reporting one stabbing.

Around 100 supporters were involved in the violence which took place in the city centre's Campo Di

One Middlesbrough fan was stabbed in the back, but police said his condition was not serious.

Several other supporters received minor injuries from broken glass. Wednesday's match is a second

leg tie with the winners going forward to the UEFA cup quarterfinals. English Premiership side

Middlesbrough won the first leg 1-0.

B E

QSALFBSM KXRK, WBMFL FK

YK SQWKJ ENQSP JBMMKN? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE FLEDGLING FARMER HAD A LOT OF FAITH IN HIMSELF HIS

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.

CRYPTOQUIP XBPKJ WZNK

CONFIDENCE WAS GROWING. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals E

Gaibandha Cricket Coaching Centre comfortably by 64 runs in the Naheed Cotton First Division Cricket League at

41.4 overs

Tushar to lead

Tushar Imran (captain), Nafees Iqbal,

Mehrab Hossain Jr, Mushfiqur Rahim, Farhad Reza, Mahmudullah Riyad Shafaq Al Jabir, Tapash Baisya, Enamul Haque Jr, Nadif Chowdhury and Nazmul Hossain.

Minhajul Abedin (assistant coach) Sam Byrne (physio).

compliment the power of Adriano. Blind was unable to pick his strongest side with defenders Zdenek Grygera and Johnny Heitinga and midfield pair Wesley Sneijder and Tomas Galasek all

bar before Maarten Stekelenburg came rushing off his line to punch Ajax breathed a sigh of relief in

Ponting unsure on bowlers match since November but Ponting did not think his lack of bowling would be a problem. "He's in really good touch at the moment and don't think [not playing a four-day game] will worry him too much. He's done a lot of bowling since he's been

Ponting said Kasprowicz also had "a few things going for him" and the decision would be a difficult one. "One of my strengths is adaptability, both in my style of bowling and having an impact in different conditions," Kasprowicz said in The

Australian South Africa have picked a 14man squad for the first two Tests and Ponting said he had a good idea how they would play. "They'll try and grind out their runs as much as they can, bat for long periods of time and try to make us bat for a long time in order to score our runs," he said in The Australian. "They won't let us

Hingis downs **Davenport**

AFP, Indian Wells

Tennis

Martina Hingis toppled Lindsay Davenport to reach the quarterfinals of the Pacific Life Open Tuesday, continuing a comeback that has amazed even her amazing compatriot Roger Federer. Former world number one Hingis

triumphed 6-3, 1-6, 6-2 over the

second-seeded American as they

renewed a rivalry that stretches

back more than a decade. Meanwhile, Switzerland's current world number one Federer had to play his way out of a jam against Belgian Olivier Rochus, finally emerging with a 3-6, 6-2, 7-5 thirdround victory over the world No. 32. "It's always special to play

Lindsay," said Hingis, who has surged up the rankings to her current No. 32 since her return in January after three years away from the game. The two were meeting for the

he's been on fairly early in every game. He's been difficult and uncomfortable for their batsmen. Clark has not played a first-class

> 25th time, but for the first time in what Hingis calls the second phase

> to meld with the best." old Davenport was diagnosed with a bulging disc in her lower back on Thursday which no doubt contrib-

> "I don't know exactly what she had," Hingis said of Davenport's injury. "You couldn't see any tape, but sometimes you could see it in "I think I also made her think

of her career. "It's definitely not easy mentally "Now I know that I have the potential

uted to her 42 unforced errors. "I didn't play great, but I thought she played very smart, which is typical for her," Davenport said. That's what she does best."

about it more," Hingis said. "I ran down a lot of balls which probably other girls try to over-hit or risk too

get away too much."

for me to play her," Hingis said. It wasn't a classic. The 29-year-

The hosts wasted a golden opportunity to strengthen their grip on the tie in the 27th minute. Aiax captain Olaf Lindenbergh blocked Stankovic's cross with his arm, and Swedish referee Peter

Froidfeldt pointed to the penalty Adriano seemed caught in two minds whether to go for pace or precision, and in the end he dragged a feeble shot wide of the post.

Ajax mustered their first chance

11 minutes before half time, but

Mauro Rosales's curler lacked any real power to trouble Francesco Ajax grew in ambition and Lindenbergh tried his luck from distance, only to see his drive fly

wide of the post.

restart, before Adriano overcooked a cross meant for the unmarked

Stekelenburg within seconds of the

Figo shot straight at

Inter finally made the breakthrough in the 57th minute. Walter Samuel's long ball released Stankovic down the left and the adventurous Serbian midfielder ran towards the edge of the box, cut inside Maduro and drilled a superb right-footed that

flew into the far corner Ajax were forced into attack, but Inter's defence, marshalled by the excellent Samuel, held firm.

Alamgir Alam (member-secretary).

Medical Committee: Dr. Feroz Mahmood Igbal (chairman), Dr. Rafig Al Kabir Labu (vice-chairman) Dr. Nuruzzaman Khokon (member-

Committee: Ali Asghar (chairman) Rafigul Islam Babu (member) Shamim Kabir (member), Dastagii Chowdhury (member).

(vice-chairman)

cricket. These changes included the to maximise its effectiveness; the need to adopt and implement the Regional Cricket Development place to raise the standards to the head coach to provide for In addition, the committee urged

that a consistent and uniform coaching policy throughout the region be established and that leadership training continued to be pursued.

AFP, Munich Munich court, told television channel N24. Bavern Munich admit they are "We have information that needs resigned to losing German internato be followed up and more needs to tional captain Michael Ballack to Chelsea at the end of the season.

could rock German football once again just three months before they

Bundesliga players, including a full

the rendition.

3.6 million people.

dominate the medals tally.

SL lose trio

FROM PAGE 12

coach Tom Moody."

20 Ostenta

tious

display

22 - gin fizz

honky-

25 Computer

26 Pirates'

27 Music

radio

29 Ford or

31 See

34 Soft

format

Lincoln

29-Down

32 Remnant

cheese

38 Light wind

an ass?

fun of

Morrison

ment type

e.g.

competitor

potable

tonk piano

language

23 Like a

to comment on any names," Anton Winkler, head prosecutor for the MCG hosts stunning

Melbourne tram carriage sporting huge white wings soaring above the stadium on an elaborate rigging system, giant koalas in y-front underpants and a performing duck. It was inspired by Australian

artist Michael Leunig's whimsical

work "The Duck Poem" and told the

story of a young boy with a toy duck.

Along the way, the boy experienced Aboriginal dancers, fantastical flying creatures and the troupe of giant slapstick koalas. A stunt motorcycle rider shared the stage with dancers from the Australian Ballet before the show

the gift of knowledge by Aboriginal elders, after which his toy duck transformed into a real one. "Rest assured, immediately after the ceremony, the duck -- which was specially trained for this evening's

culminated with the boy being given

performance -- will return to his farm where he was reared," organisers Before the theatrics, the flag of the host nation was raised along with those of England and India, the

respective hosts of the last Games

in 2002 and the next in 2010.

ACROSS

8 Call a

halt to

12 Leave a

lasting

impres-

sion?

hoot?

15 Bottle

at last!"

19 Potpourri

pouch

ever's

21 What-

left

24 White

1 Prejudice

5 Bake sale

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer **37** 2005 58 Lair 59 Green Rosario Dawson land movie 38 Polar DOWN 1 No. 1 explorer 39 Dillinger's 2 Pruritus 3 Farm foes (Abbr.)

fraction

4 Fortified

Spain

number

mecca

to tip

over

10 Stage

wine from

MYOB 13 One who 43 Roger gives a 5 Cauldron and 14 Option for 6 33-Across Julianne 46 Linguine Hamlet 7 Yodelers topping cap, often 50 Gumbo 17 Mayberry ingredient 8 inventory 51 Santa's 9 Likely moppet 18 "Finished runway

54 Metropolis

55 Blunder

41 Part of

57 Piano lineup Solution

56 Billy of statuette 11 Actress Amanda 42 DHL 16 Itsy-bitsy 43 Make time: 21 mins. 44 Tom Joad, nickname 45 Lean-to 47 Luminary

25 Bohemian 28 Tale-teller 30 Expert 48 Writer 34 Paycheck 49 Tourna-35 Forefront 52 Raw rock 36 Item in a roadie's