

DHAKA SUNDAY MAY 7, 2006



DOWN THE WORLD CUP LANE



# Italy 1934: Mussolini's menace

AGENCIES, undated



Having staged the first World Cup in the right place, FIFA this time did the exact opposite in that they handed the second tournament to Italy.

Over the years, Benito Mussolini has been portrayed as a number of things, even as something of a buffoon in many circumstances. There was however little that was funny about the modern fascist state that he was in charge of in 1934.

It was built on one-party rule, brownshirt gangs and informers, state murder and imprisonment without trial. And Mussolini was in power for a decade before Hitler. Naturally the World Cup would be a major propaganda tool.

"God help them if they lose" were the encouraging words from Mussolini to Italian players on the eve of the World Cup.

Even FIFA must have had reservations: it took them eight meetings to make up their minds. Perhaps they eventually decided that human rights might have to be swept under the carpet for a while, but at least the tournament would run on time.

As for the actual football, again the hosts were expected to win, especially as Italy's coach was one of the great early man-managers and strategists. There had been some bad blood (the Italians called it 'rust') between his centre-half and centre-forward following a league match -- so Pozzo made them share a room. He needed this kind of no-prisoners centre-half for his system of play, plus a pair of good wingers -- and he knew where to find them, helping himself to a number of South American internationals, on the basis that if they could die for Italy (eligible for national service), they could play for Italy.

So with the words of Il Duce ringing in his ears, in came Fico, capped by Brazil in 1925, and several high-class Argentineans: Demaria who'd played in the 1930 World Cup, Orsi who'd played in the last Olympic Final, Guaita on the other wing -- and Monti himself, a lynchpin at Juventus (four league titles) once his weight problem was sorted. After the tournament, Pozzo picked another 1930 Argentinean, Scopelli, as well as Mascheroni from Uruguay. They were all apparently ineligible, but FIFA turned a blind eye.

There were home-grown stars too, especially the graceful centre-forward Peppino (Giuseppe) Meazza, whose hat-trick in Hungary had won the Dr Gero Cup, a forerun-

ner of the European Championship. Among the opposition, Hungary were improving, using the smooth Sarosi at centre-half as well as centre-forward. Czechoslovakia had Planicka in goal, Nejedly and the forceful Puc up front, Spain a great goalkeeper in Zamora.

Above all, Austria, managed by the passionate Jewish banker Hugo Meisl, had dominated the early Thirties ('das Wunderteam'), beating Scotland 5-0, Germany 6-0 and 5-0, Switzerland 8-1. Playing the same old Scottish close passing game as the other Central Europeans, they arrived in Italy without their fine goalkeeper Rudi Hiden, whom Arsenal tried to buy, but still had their share of world-class players: Smistik the attacking centre-half, the prolific Schall, and two genuinely great forwards in Bican and the slender Sindelar.

They were probably just past their peak (Meisl himself thought so) but had recently beaten Italy 4-2 in Turin.

Staged between 27 May and 10 June, this World Cup was markedly more encouraging than its forerunner. Thirty-two nations took part so that a preliminary round was necessary (even the hosts, Italy, had to qualify), which qualified 16 teams for the finals. As a retort to the many withdrawals of European teams four years earlier, several South American nations, such as Argentina and Brazil, did not send their best teams to Italy. Uruguay declined to participate and defend its title.

Predictably then, only Euro-pean teams reached the quarter-finals. The battle reached its height in Florence. In gruelling heat, a steely Spanish defence bravely resisted

the hard and almost violent team of the Squadra Azzurra and at the end of extra-time the score stood at 1-1. The match was to be replayed the next day. In an effort to rejuvenate their troops, both coaches called on fresh legs (five changes in the Italian team and seven for Spain), but player after player collapsed from sheer exhaustion. Happily for the locals, the Squadra centre forward Giuseppe Meazza scored the only goal of the game. Two days later, a similar scenario took place in the semi-final against Austria, in Milan.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

## Home fans the real concern

INTERNET, Dusseldorf

Forget the once-notorious English or Dutch hooligans ruining the World Cup, or a new threat from violent Polish or Ukrainian fans.

The top police officer in charge of keeping hooligans under control at soccer's showcase event said Friday he most fears troublemakers living in host Germany.

"What gives me headaches sometimes is thinking about how we are going to keep our own 10,000 hooligans in line," said Michael Endler, head of ZIS, Germany's office for sports information.

In February, the Germans were embarrassed when 65 people were arrested after their fans rampaged at an exhibition win in Slovenia the worst violence from the country's hooligans since the 2000 European Championship.

Endler hopes the German hooligans about 3,000 are regarded as hardcore can be kept under control. He also believes the threat from other European hooligans is exaggerated.

ZIS trades information about troublemakers with similar offices in other European countries. About 500 officers mostly hooligan experts have been sent by the 32 countries playing at the World Cup to help out.

"The cooperation with other countries has been excellent. From what I have heard from them, I believe reports of trouble have been overblown," Endler said. "Every time before a tournament, people scream alarm. We regard the risk as far lower."

The German media, among others in Europe, has been filled with lurid stories recently about how hooligans could overrun Germany during the tournament, which runs June 9-July 9.

German TV station ZDF has broadcast reports about Polish hooligans psyching themselves up for weeks by screaming slogans such as "Revenge for WWII" or "Blood to the Germans." Thousands plan to cross the border with Germany, the reports said.

But Endler said the hooligan scene in countries such as the Ukraine and Poland whose teams have qualified for the World Cup centers on clashes between supporters of rival clubs. The violence rarely surfaces at national team matches, he said.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5



PHOTO STAR FILE

A SIGN OF THE TIMES: The German team give the Nazi salute before their quarterfinal against Sweden.

# A case of identity

AFP, Sydney

Australia's World Cup match with Croatia in Stuttgart next month will be spiced up by the prospect of playing against three Australians who turned their back on the country of their birth to represent the country of their ancestors.

The June 22 showdown could decide which team goes through to the second-round knockout phase of the World Cup tournament along with expected Group F winners and defending champions Brazil.

But when Australia's national anthem is struck up before kick-off it will be a poignant moment for three potential Croatian team members -- Ante Seric, Josip Simunic and Joey Didulica -- when they finally come to face the decision they made to choose Croatia over Australia.

On the other side, seven Australian squad members have Croatian ancestry, including captain and star striker Mark Viduka.

Seric and Simunic were graduates of the Australian taxpayer-funded national Sports Institute while goalkeeper Didulica was picked to play for Australia at the 2000 Sydney Olympics before injury ruled him out of the tourna-

ment.

Seric, rated one of Australia's best young talents before he defected to Croatia in 1998, says the playing of the national anthems for the Stuttgart game will also be a moment of pride.

"I'll be there representing Croatia and I'll be there representing Australia," he told The Sydney Morning Herald Thursday. "I'll be there for both countries. And even if I don't sing the Australian anthem, I'll definitely hum it. I will hum at least."

Seric said his decision to quit Australia was the hardest of his life.

"Growing up, my dream was always to play for Australia," he said. But at the time football in Australia was in a mess reeling from the sickening World Cup loss on away goals to Iran, hamstrung by a faction-riven administration and the dream of qualifying for the World Cup seemed as distant as ever.

Meanwhile, the Croatian national team had finished in third place at the 1998 World Cup in France.

"I can't hide the fact that I'm Australian, but I can't hide the fact that I'm Croatian as well," Seric said.

"If I went back and the circumstances were different, I may have made a different decision. But I decided the way I did and I stand behind that. If the circumstances were exactly the same, I would make exactly the same decision. I can't regret it because it's given me so much."

But in the wake of significant advances over the past two years -- establishing a viable national league, leaving Oceania to join the Asian confederation and qualifying for the World Cup for the first time in 32 years -- Australia looks better placed now to resist Seric-style raids from countries like Croatia.

"I think players will always have the temptation to be called by other countries," Seric said. "But I can feel that things are changing for Australian football. They're obviously doing something right if they qualified for the World Cup."

"I will go back and live in Australia when I've finished playing football."

"I want to give back to the game. I owe the AIS. I owe the people who were there and who helped me because I think it was the pivotal moment of my career. I will help anyone who needs help in Australian football."

# BITS AND BOBS

## Klinsmann summons nine

AFP, Frankfurt

German national coach Jurgen Klinsmann has called up nine players for physical tests next week ahead of the World Cup.

"We've analysed the situation and it seems important to us to have some precise and full details on all the players currently making up part of the wider squad," Klinsmann said in a statement released by the German Football Federation.

The nine players called up for the tests on Monday are Schalke 04 trio Fabian Ernst, Gerald Asamoah and Kevin Kuranyi, Bayern Munich duo Bastian Schweinsteiger and Philipp Lahm, Per Meretesacker of Hannover, Miroslav Klose and Torsten Frings of Werder Bremen, and Wolfsburg's Mike Hanke.

All but two of the players either missed the previous physical test last month through injury or being involved in club matches.

Klose, leading scorer in the Bundesliga, and Meretesacker both took part in the Dusseldorf tests.

Arsenal goalkeeper Jens Lehmann, and Bayern Munich duo Michael Ballack and Oliver Kahn have not been called up for either session.

Klinsmann will unveil his squad of 23 players for the June 9-July 9 World Cup on May 15 in Berlin.

## Schuster hits out at Spain selection

INTERNET, undated

Getafe coach Bernd Schuster has criticised Spain's Luis Aragones for picking Chelsea left back Asier Del Horno ahead of Mariano Perna for next week's World Cup get-together.

"All Del Horno has done this year is kick Barcelona's Lionel Messi in the Champions League," Schuster told a news conference on Friday.

In February, Del Horno was shown a red card in the first leg of the Champions League first knockout round tie against Barcelona for a late challenge on Messi.

Getafe's Argentine full back

Perna secured dual nationality last week and after a good season in the Primera Liga was expected to be given a chance in Spain's squad before the World Cup.

"Perna has had a sensational season and scored 10 goals but Aragones is the coach and he has to select a competitive side to try and win the World Cup," said Schuster.

"It's a shame but there is still time for him to make it."

## Svensson rates Sweden

REUTERS, Stockholm

Tommy Svensson, who coached Sweden to third place in the 1994 World Cup in the United States, believes his country can do as well in this year's finals in Germany.

"If everyone is on top they sure can get as good as we were," Svensson told the news agency TT on Friday.

"There are some real world class players in Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Henrik Larsson and Fredrik Ljungberg, it's just a matter of everyone being on top and in

shape at the same time."

Svensson's World Cup side hammered Bulgaria 4-0 in the bronze match, having lost the semi-final to eventual winners Brazil.

He resigned in 1997 after failing to take Sweden to the following World Cup in France.

Of the 1994 squad only Larsson and central defender Teddy Lucic will feature in Germany, provided

SEE PAGE 18 COL 6

## Argentina name pre-squad

AFP, Buenos Aires

Argentina coach Jose Pekerman named a 16-man World Cup pre-squad on Friday containing players who are assured of their World Cup place.

The 16 players will train in Spain next week with the complete 23-man squad set to be named by the FIFA deadline on May 15.

This early squad list has 15 players who ply their trade in Europe, plus keeper Roberto Abbondanzieri who plays for Argentinian first division side Boca Juniors.

Inter Milan's Javier Zanetti and Walter Samuel were not named however because they are still playing for Inter in their final Italian league games of the season.

Argentina are in first round Group C of the June 9 to July 9 football showpiece in Germany, together with the Netherlands, Serbia-Montenegro and Ivory Coast.

**Goal-keepers:** Roberto Abbondanzieri (Boca Juniors), Leonardo Franco (Atletico Madrid/ESP)

**Defenders:** Nicolas Burdisso (Inter Milan/ITA), Gabriel Milito (Real Zaragoza/ESP), Fabricio Coloccini (Deportivo La Coruna/ESP), Leandro Cufre (AS Roma/ITA), Roberto Ayala (Valencia/ESP), Gabriel Heinze (Manchester United/ENG)

**Midfielders:** Maximiliano Rodriguez (Atletico Madrid/ESP), Esteban Cambiasso (Inter Milan/ITA), Juan Pablo Sorin (Villarreal/ESP), Juan Roman Riquelme (Villarreal/ESP), Luis Gonzalez (Porto/POR), Lionel Scaloni (West Ham/ENG)

**Strikers:** Lionel Messi (FC Barcelona/ESP), Hernan Crespo (Chelsea/ENG)



PHOTO AFP

RELIGIONS UNITED: A member of the Evangelical Church's team (L) and a member of the Muslim team vie for the ball during a friendly football match between Muslim Imams and Christian priests in Berlin on Saturday.

# 2006 Round 1, Draw in Rangpur

## Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Information</b></p> <p>A. The <i>Daily Star</i> Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz 2006 is a series of competitions on World Cup Soccer being held in Germany from June 9 to July 9.</p> <p>B. There will be FIVE rounds of competition.</p> <p>C. Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of RANGS TOSHIBA as per announcement.</p> <p>D. Participants of all the FIVE rounds will automatically qualify for the Bumper Draw, which will have even bigger prizes.</p> <p>E. For each round, a set of questions including a photographic quiz will be published in <i>The Daily Star</i>.</p> <p>F. Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in <i>The Daily Star</i>.</p> <p>G. Winners will have to collect their prizes from <i>The Daily Star</i> office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.</p> <p>H. Any taxes or levies, as per law, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the prize winners.</p> | <p><b>Rules</b></p> <p>1. Residents of Bangladesh are eligible to participate in <b>Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz 2006</b>. Employees of <b>Rangs Toshiba</b> and their immediate family members shall not be eligible to participate.</p> <p>2. All entries must be submitted in the original form printed in <i>The Daily Star</i>. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.</p> <p>3. Forms will have to be cut along the dotted lines.</p> <p>4. Participants are to put a tick ( ) mark in the box alongside their answer to each question.</p> <p>5. A person may send numerous entries for each round.</p> <p>6. Entry forms should be completed with a ballpoint pen.</p> <p>7. Name, address, father's name and particulars of participants must be clearly written. Each entry form must also bear the signature of the participant and date.</p> <p>8. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.</p> <p>9. Entries must reach the office of <i>The Daily Star</i> on or before the closing date marked on the entry form. Late entries will not be accepted.</p> <p>10. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star World Cup Quiz 1".</p> <p>11. Entries may be hand delivered or posted to <i>The Daily Star</i>, 19, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215.</p> <p>12. Entries will be placed in a sealed box for the draw to be held on a notified date in public in presence of invited guests and Quiz participants, if any.</p> <p>13. Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.</p> <p>14. Entering this Quiz competition shall be construed as the respective agreement by each participant to abide by all rules, instructions and guidelines as may be issued by <i>The Daily Star</i>.</p> <p>15. Any decision of <i>The Daily Star</i> in the conduct of the Quiz competition/including the answers selected as correct shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner whatsoever.</p> <p>16. <i>The Daily Star</i> management, in their absolute discretion, reserves the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any circumstances.</p> |
|--|--|

Prize	Item	Model	Winner
1st	One 21" Toshiba Bomba Flat TV	21CZ8DE	YOU
2nd	One Toshiba Refrigerator	GRM-19BPT	YOU
3rd	One Toshiba Washing Machine	VH-7200	YOU
4th	Ten Canon Cameras	BF-800	YOU
5th	Twenty Toshi Irons		and YOU

Round & Draw	Starts	Answers must reach by noon	Lucky Draw for prizes
1 Rangpur	May 05	May 18	May 19
2 Khulna	May 19	June 01	June 02
3 Sylhet	June 2	June 15	June 16
4 Chittagong	June 16	June 29	June 30
5 Dhaka(Bumper)	June 30	July 09	TBA

## The Daily Star RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Round 1 Ends May 18, 2006

**Tick ( ) the correct answers**

1. How many teams will make their World Cup debut in Germany?	10 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Which team finished third in the 2002 World Cup?	Turkey <input type="checkbox"/>	Senegal <input type="checkbox"/>	Spain <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Who won the golden boot in the 1998 World Cup?	Vieri <input type="checkbox"/>	Batistuta <input type="checkbox"/>	Suker <input type="checkbox"/>
4. How many goals did Maradona score in the 1986 World Cup final?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	0 <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Who is this player:	Morientes <input type="checkbox"/>	Ballack <input type="checkbox"/>	Shevchenko <input type="checkbox"/>

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms).....Age.....  
 Father's name.....Occupation.....  
 Address.....  
 Telephone (if any).....Signature.....Date.....

Write with a ballpoint pen in clear BLOCK letters.  
 Cut along the dotted lines and mail to OR drop in the Quiz Box at The Daily Star

**READ The Daily Star CATCH THE WORLD CUP FEVER**