

DHAKA WEDNESDAY MAY 17, 2006

DOWN THE WORLD CUP LANE

The "Little Bird" who soared high

AGENCIES, undated

Agarrincha is a small tropical bird, and legend has it that Manoel Francisco Dos Santos liked to hunt garrinchas as a youngster in the backstreets of his village, thus acquiring his nickname. There is another view to the issue that says that Garrincha got his nickname from his older brother (one of 12) who named him after the unimpressive looking bird since he was described as "a scrawny, bandy-legged cripple with a contorted spinal column."

International defenders and goalkeepers probably called him something less quaint as he darted past them time after time or foxed them with his astonishing "banana" kick, but now the name Garrincha is firmly part of Brazil's great football legacy.

The Brazilian winger was the eternal child, a spindly, fun-loving character who drove his coaches to distraction. One said he thought he had the mental age of four.

On the pitch he was one of the most exciting ball players ever, thrilling spectators with his exceptional dribbling skills.

Yet it is a miracle he was able to even kick a football, such were the physical and growing problems he had as a boy.

An operation left him with one knee pointing outwards, while his backbone and hip were also affected.

Yet Garrincha burst onto the scene at the 1958 World Cup in Sweden, dazzling all those who came up against him with a catalogue of feints, dummies and lightning breaks.

His balance and speed made him virtually unstoppable, and his action was so original and quick that few defenders could ever get the better of him.

In 1962 he was at the peak of his considerable and explosive powers at the World Cup in Chile in 1962, when he emerged from the injured Pele's shadow to inspire his team to the title.

He was voted player of the tournament - despite being sent off in the semi-final against Chile - after scoring twice against both England and the hosts and for good reason too. It is commonly maintained

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PHOTO: AFP FILE
 Brazilian legend Garrincha (L) dribbles past a Welsh defender in a World Cup match, which was a common sight during his heydays.

Pippo makes the cut

REUTERS, Rome

AC Milan striker Filippo Inzaghi has been named in Italy coach Marcello Lippi's 23-man squad for next month's World Cup along with goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon.

The 32-year-old Inzaghi has not played for the national team since October 2003 due to a series of injuries but his recent club form has earned him a spot in the squad.

Juventus goalkeeper Buffon was included despite his link to an ongoing investigation into gambling. He was questioned on Saturday over alleged betting improprieties after he voluntarily presented himself to Turin magistrates.

The keeper has denied any wrongdoing or breaking the ban on gambling that is imposed on all professional players in Italy.

Italian Football Federation vice-president Giancarlo Abete said there was no reason to leave Buffon

out of the squad. "We made our verifications and there was no reason to make any different decision," he said. "We decided not to impose any restrictions on Lippi regarding Buffon," added Abete.

Coach Marcello Lippi said he had no worries that Buffon might be distracted by the affair.

"I have spoken to the player and I think not," Lippi told a news conference, adding that the keeper was not likely to suffer an image problem as a result of the gambling probe.

"Buffon is a person of great responsibility and seriousness," added Lippi. "I don't believe his popularity will be affected by this."

There was no place in the squad for Real Madrid forward Antonio Cassano or Livorno's Cristiano Lucarelli, whose 19 goals in Serie A this season had pushed him into contention.

Udinese forward Vincenzo

laquinta was chosen ahead of Lucarelli as back-up for target man Luca Toni, who is Europe's top scorer with 31 goals this season.

Italy have been drawn in Group E for the finals along with Ghana, the Czech Republic and the United States.

SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Gianluigi Buffon (Juventus), Angelo Peruzzi (Lazio), Marco Amelia (Livorno)

Defenders: Cristian Zaccardo (Palermo), Alessandro Nesta (AC Milan), Fabio Cannavaro (Juventus), Gianluca Zambrotta (Juventus), Marco Materazzi (Inter Milan), Fabio Grosso (Palermo), Massimo Oddo (Lazio), Andrea Barzagli (Palermo)

Midfielders: Andrea Pirlo (AC Milan), Gennaro Gattuso (AC Milan), Daniele De Rossi (AS Roma),

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WC squads announced

REUTERS, undated

The remaining teams that announced their World Cup squad's yesterday:

IVORY COAST

Goalkeepers: Boubacar Barry (Beveren, Belgium), Gerard Gnanhouan (Montpellier, France), Jean-Jacques Tizie (Esperance, Tunisia)

Defenders: Arthur Boka (Racing Strasbourg), Guy Demel (SV Hamburg), Cyrille Domoraud (Creteil), Emmanuel Eboue (Arsenal), Blaise Kossi Kouassi (Troyes), Abdoulaye Meite (Olympique Marseille), Kolo Toure (Arsenal), Marc Zoro (Messina)

Midfielders: Kanga Akale (AJ Auxerre), Emerge Fae (Nantes), Christian Koffi Ndiri (Le Mans), Gneri Yaya Toure (Olympiakos), Gilles Yapi Yapo (Young Boys Berne), Didier Zokora (StEtienne)

Strikers: Aruna Dindane (Lens), Didier Drogba (Chelsea), Bonaventure Kalou (Paris Saint-Germain), Abdelkader Keita (Lille), Bakari Kone (Nice), Arouna Kone (PSV Eindhoven)

PARAGUAY

Goalkeepers: Justo Villar (Newell's Old Boys), Derlis Gomez (Sportivo Luqueno), Aldo Bobadilla (Libertad)

Defenders: Denis Caniza (Cruz Azul), Carlos Gamarra (Palmeiras), Julio Cesar Caceres (River Plate), Delio Toledo (Real Zaragoza), Jorge Nunez (Estudiantes), Julio Manzur (Santos), Paulo da Silva (Toluca)

Midfielders: Edgar Barreto (NEC Nijmegen), Roberto Acuna (Deportivo Coruna), Carlos Paredes (Reggina), Julio dos Santos (Bayern Munich), Carlos Bonet (Libertad), Cristian Riveros (Libertad), Diego Gavilan (Newell's Old Boys), Jose Montiel (Olimpia)

Forwards: Nelson Haedo Valdez (Werder Bremen), Roque Santa Cruz (Bayern Munich), Nelson Cuevas (Pachuca), Salvador Cabanas (Chiapas), Jose Cardozo (no club)

SAUDI ARABIA

Goalkeepers: Mohammad Al-Deayea (Al-Hilal), Mabrouk Zayed (Al-Ittihad), Mohammad Khouja (Al-Shabab)

Defenders: Ahmad Al-Doukhi (Al-Ittihad), Redha Takar (Al-Ittihad), Hamad Al-Montashari (Al-Ittihad), Ahmad Al-Bahri (Al-Ittihad), Mohammad Masaad (Al-Ahli), Nayef Al-Kadhi (Al-Ahli), Hussein Abdul Ghani (Al-Ahli), Abdul Aziz Al-Khathran (Al-Hilal)

Midfielders: Saoud Kariri (Al-Ittihad), Mohammad Nour (Al-Ittihad), Mohammad Amin (Al-Ittihad), Khaled Aziz (Al-Hilal), Omar Al-Ghamdi (Al-Hilal), Nawaf Al-Temyat (Al-Hilal), Mohammad Al-Shalhoub (Al-Hilal)

Forwards: Sami Al-Jaber (Al-Hilal),

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On the threshold of greatness

AFP, Paris

Pele, Maradona, Cruyff -- Ronaldinho? The world's best footballer is already being mentioned in the same breath as some of the greatest players to grace the game.

And if the Brazilian genius inspires Barcelona to Champions League glory on Wednesday and leads his country to a sixth World Cup on July 9, his elevation to the pantheon will be assured.

Ronaldinho's CV commands awe. Winners medals for the 2002 World Cup, Confederations Cup and Copa America as well as back-to-back Spanish league titles, augmented by two World and a European Footballer of the Year crowns.

Now he stands on the brink of joining the elite club of footballers whose names immediately conjure up mental images of some of the beautiful game's most iconic moments.

Ronaldinho's logic-defying skills are on their way to being bracketed with the Cruyff turn, Maradona's miraculous slalom through the

entire English team at the 1986 World Cup and Pele's outrageous attempt from the halfway line against the Czechs in 1970. "He could be a Champions League victory and World Cup win away from being classed as one of the all-time greats, alongside Pele and Maradona," says former England and Barcelona striker Gary Lineker.

"I look at some of the tricks he does and just can't understand how they are physically possible,"

Lineker wrote in the Sunday Telegraph. "What is more important is that his tricks are designed to hurt the opposition - he might be fun to watch but he is also effective, scoring and making goals. And to cap it all, he plays with a smile on his face."

Other greats of the game have been similarly won over.

"Ronaldinho just makes the game so beautiful. He makes everyone happy, and his smile when he's playing says it all," said France and Juventus legend Michel Platini, one of three-time winners of the Ballon d'Or.

Johan Cruyff, one of the pioneers of the flowing game in the 1970s known as 'total football' said Ronaldinho was able to entertain while delivering match-winning performances was what singled him out.

"He animates the game and people love watching him when he's playing," said the former Barcelona and Netherlands great.

"Every one of his gestures is

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RONALDINHO



PHOTO: AFP
 Erassa Affo of Togo gives autographs to fans after arriving at the Stuttgart airport on Monday.

BITS AND BOBS

Pele fancies Brazil

AFP, Mexico

Footballing great Pele said Monday he fancied Brazil to win the World Cup that gets under way next month in Germany.

"For me, Brazil is the best team but it's not easy to win the World Cup," said the three-time Brazilian World Cup winner, rated by many as the world's greatest ever footballer.

"Italy and England are very good and are the two European teams that have the greatest chance," Pele, who scored 1,281 goals in 1,363 matches in his fabulous career, including 77 goals in 92 internationals, told a press conference here.

"France could also do something. Because it didn't finish the last World Cup as it was expecting it could arrive with the best intentions. There are some players of great talent like Zinedine Zidane and David Trezeguet."

Portuguese man to cycle to Germany

AFP, Lisbon

A 62-year-old retired man plans to travel from his hometown in Portugal to Germany by bicycle in order to attend the 2006 World Cup which gets underway on June 9.

Jose Fortunato left Vila Franca de Xira, some 30 kilometres (18 miles) northeast of Lisbon, on Sunday and he expects to arrive in Munich, which will host the opening game of the 64-match tournament, on June 8.

"I am doing this because I am retired and I have nothing to do. It is a question of being stubborn and a bit adventurous," he told daily newspaper Publico.

He plans to cycle for five or six hours each day in order to cover the roughly 2,600 kilometres in 26 days.

"I am leaving on this trip with a bit of difficulty because the expenses are all up to me. I was thinking of returning by airplane but maybe I will have to come back by train, but I

Portuguese man to cycle to Germany

don't know how," said Fortunato.

Portugal are pooled with Mexico, Iran and Angola in World Cup Group D with their first match against debutants Angola in Cologne on June 11.

Koizumi tries to ease pressure on Japan

AFP, Tokyo

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi on Tuesday cheered on Japan's World Cup squad, saying they shouldn't feel under too much pressure at being drawn into the same group as powerhouses Brazil.

"I don't ask you to win the World Cup, but I hope you'll have a good game with Brazil," Koizumi told Japan coach Zico and skipper Tsuneyasu Miyamoto whom he invited to his residence.

The media-savvy Koizumi donned the blue jersey of Japan's team, who have been under a national spotlight as soccer gains fans in the baseball-loving country which co-hosted the 2002 World Cup with South Korea.

Brazilian football legend Zico expressed confidence over next month's World Cup despite being in tough Group F which includes defending champions Brazil, Australia and Croatia.

"I don't listen to all the talk before the event. Once we pass

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NOTICE

Dear readers,
 Due to unavoidable reasons, the draw of The Daily Star-Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz 2006 Round 1 in Rangpur cannot be held on May 19 as scheduled. It will now be held on May 23. However, the last date of submitting your entries remain unchanged (May 18).

2006 Round 1, Draw in Rangpur
 Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

Information

- The Daily Star 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.
- There will be FIVE rounds of competition.
- Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of RANGS TOSHIBA as per announcement.
- Participants of all the FIVE rounds will automatically qualify for the Bumper Draw, which will have even bigger prizes.
- For each round, a set of questions including a photographic quiz will be published in The Daily Star.
- Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in The Daily Star.
- Winners will have to collect their prizes from The Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.
- Any taxes or levies, as per law, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the prize winners.

Prizes up for grabs

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 Toshin Irons		and YOU

QUIZ SCHEDULE

Round & Draw	Starts	Answers must reach by noon	Lucky Draw for prizes
1 Rangpur	May 05	May 18	May 23
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

Rules

- Residents of Bangladesh are eligible to participate in Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz 2006. Employees of and Rangs Toshiba and their immediate family members shall not be eligible to participate.
- All entries must be submitted in the original form printed in The Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.
- Forms will have to be cut along the dotted lines.
- Participants are to put a tick () mark in the box alongside their answer to each question.
- A person may send numerous entries for each round. Entry forms should be completed with a ballpoint pen.
- 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.
- Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
- Entries must reach the office of The Daily Star on or before the closing date marked on the entry form. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "The World Cup Quiz 1".
- Entries may be hand delivered or posted to The Daily Star, 19, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215.
- 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.
- Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.
- 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 The Daily Star.
- Any decision of The Daily Star 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.
- The Daily Star 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.

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

Tick () the correct answers

- How many teams will make their World Cup debut in Germany? 10 6 8
- Which team finished third in the 2002 World Cup? Turkey Senegal Spain
- Who won the golden boot in the 1998 World Cup? Vieri Batistuta Suker
- How many goals did Maradona score in the 1986 World Cup final? 1 2 0
- Who is this player:  Morientes Ballack Shevchenko

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