

DHAKA TUESDAY MAY 30, 2006



DOWN THE WORLD CUP LANE



Lothar Matthaeus: The Libero

AGENCIES, undated



The unforgettable German midfielder Lothar Matthaeus goes down in the World Cup hall of fame for having played in a record five tournaments, a losing finalist in 1982 and 1986 he then won the trophy in 1990 as captain.

A tireless recuperator, blocker and distributor he picked up 150 international caps, played 12 seasons at the top with Bayern Munich, four more with Inter Milan and was voted European player of the year and German player of the year in 1990 and FIFA World player of the year in both 1990 and 1991.

In his two spells at Bayern he won six German championships but was on the losing side in the European Cup or Champions League final twice, though many believe Bayern would have beaten Manchester United in 1999 had he not been substituted before United's last gasp two goals. That was the only major honour that eluded Matthaeus in his entire career and it was most cruelly so considering all that he has achieved in his career.

He did win a UEFA Cup with Bayern in 1996 to add to another UEFA victory at Inter Milan in 1991, whom he also helped to a rare Italian championship in 1989 in a team that also included then German stars Klinsmann and Brehme.

Of all the Germans who left to play in Italy during the 1990's, it was Matthaeus who most profited from his time in Serie A, where he learned vital new skills.

Within two seasons at Inter Milan, Matthaeus, who already had incredible stamina and a ferocious shot, became another player altogether, more skilful and with greater vision and subtlety. He became almost the complete player, a combative two-way midfielder who could defend and attack with almost equal vigour.

Franz Beckenbauer, Germany's coach at the time, was quick to recognise the successful transition and named him captain for the

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PHOTO: AFP FILE

West Germany captain Lothar Matthaeus (C), holds aloft the World Cup trophy as he celebrates with teammate Jurgen Klinsmann (R) after West Germany beat Argentina 1-0 in the World Cup final on 08 July 1990 at the Olympic Stadium in Rome.

United Serbia & Montenegro

INTERNET, undated

Serbia & Montenegro coach Ilija Petkovic doesn't believe the political situation in the country will hurt the team on the field at the World Cup.

Last week, 55.5% of the Montenegrin population voted in favour of a split from their Serbian neighbours, meaning this will be the first and last World Cup where Serbia & Montenegro compete as a combined nation.

"We are thinking just about football, as football is the reason we gathered this team," Petkovic said on a topic which is the main subject in his country since last week's referendum. "We started the qualifications as Serbia & Montenegro, and our obligation is to finish this competition as Serbia & Montenegro."

"I will be the first coach at a World Cup who will be at helm of team that represents two independent countries, and I'll do my best to do that job as well as possible."

The team left Belgrade on Monday after a 1-1 draw with Uruguay, a match which saw the Plavci concede their first goal at home since March 2004.

After the game, in which the hosts took lead in the 18th minute thanks to Dejan Stankovic's shot from the left wing before Diego Godin equalised in the 82nd minute after being left unmarked from a free-kick, Petkovic was upbeat.

"We've played against good opponents and although Uruguay gave our defence quite a lot of problems, I'm still satisfied."

"Our last test before the World Cup, next weekend, will be against a regional squad of Carinthia, who surprised Ghana by defeating them 1-0 recently."

Petkovic's only injury worry is Lecce striker Mirko Vucinic, who suffered a knee injury while representing his country at the Under-21 European Championships in Portugal.

As the young forward is almost definitely ruled out of the World Cup, Petkovic could call up new Udivese left-back Aleksandar Lukovic as a replacement, despite Russian media reporting on Sunday that Spartak Moscow forward Mihajlo Pjanovic is a more realistic option.

BITS AND BOBS

Press centre closed

AFP, Berlin

The tented press centre that will house hundreds of journalists at next month's World Cup was evacuated and temporarily closed Sunday as strong winds lashed the complex.

The tent housing the press facilities adjacent to Berlin's Olympic Stadium was cleared of staff after being shaken by powerful gusts of wind.

Local World Cup organisers insisted the evacuation was just a routine drill. "There was a bit of a storm, so we decided to hold an evacuation exercise," said a spokesman for the organising committee.

Lockout for VIP's

AFP, Berlin

Hundreds of thousands of VIP ticket-holders for the World Cup could be barred from stadia for not having their names on the tickets, German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung reported in its Monday edition.

The German organising committee of the World Cup (WMOK) and Swiss agent ISE, hired by football's world governing body FIFA to oversee commercial sales of tickets have insisted they are not responsible for the blunder.

ISE said they were only informed one month ago by WMOK of the need

to supply individual names for all tickets, in accordance with demands by Germany's Interior Ministry as a security measure.

"It was too late to do anything about it," a spokesman for ISE told the newspaper.

The German organising committee responded by stating it had been a clear requirement, ever since the ticketing procedures were first outlined, that names of individuals needed to appear on each ticket.

As well as names of the fans, tickets also need to show the passport or identity card number of each bearer.

In an effort to solve the problem, ISE is attempting to track down all

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Lamps confident of getting goals

AFP, Manchester

Frank Lampard believes his midfield partnership with Steven Gerrard will deliver goals for England to make up for Wayne Rooney's absence at the World Cup.

Lampard dismissed fears England will lack a cutting edge in Germany, where their first-choice strike pairing will be an inexperienced Peter Crouch and a ring-rusty Michael Owen.

Crouch has played only five games for England, scoring one goal, while Newcastle forward Owen is only just returning to full fitness after missing most of the season with a broken foot.

Rooney is likely to miss all of England's Group B games against Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago and Sweden.

But Lampard said he is confident his partnership with Liverpool's Steven Gerrard can bear fruit, dismissing nagging doubts that the two do not link well at international level.

"We believe we can play together," said Lampard. "I don't know how the manager will put us together, whether it's as a two, part of a three, one more forward than the other."

Lampard has scored 20 goals for Chelsea this season. Gerrard has scored 23 for Liverpool, including two screamers in this month's FA Cup final.

"Our real strengths are going forward and making and scoring goals," said Lampard.

"We also have capabilities to defend. I've played regularly for Chelsea as a player who does a lot of work in the middle of the park and defends, rather than an out-and-out attacking midfielder."

"I'll always try to do that however we set up."

Both Gerrard and Lampard will be making their debuts in the World Cup finals. Eriksson did not pick Lampard for Japan and Gerrard was injured.

"I've added quite a lot to my all-round game in the last four years. I've probably added more goals and I'm probably more creative in my play," Lampard said. "I've scored quite a lot of goals since the last World Cup and that makes a big difference from midfield."

"I hope my peak is to come. It would be a great time to peak in a World Cup."

Rosicky picks up injury

INTERNET, undated

Tomas Rosicky will miss the Czech Republic's warm-up against Costa Rica on Tuesday because of a thigh injury.

Rosicky, who last week signed for Arsenal for 8 million pounds (14.91 million dollars), could not train with his team mates on Sunday after picking up the injury in the friendly against Saudi Arabia on Friday.

Team officials said the midfielder spent Sunday undergoing rehabilitation on the leg injury and would travel to the northern city of Jablonec, where the Czechs play Costa Rica, but would not play.

Rosicky's injury only adds to the woes of coach Karel Brueckner, who is already without the services of midfielder Vladimir Smicer, who suffered a setback in his recovery from a leg injury last week and may not play any part in Germany.



PHOTO: AFP

A man walks past a giant billboard of soft-drink Pepsi showing top football players Raul and Ronaldinho in Islamabad on Monday.

'Fans can push Germany to final'

AFP, Berlin

West Germany's 1974 World Cup victor Franz Beckenbauer claims the 80 million football fans in Germany can drive the host nation to glory at the World Cup finals.

Beckenbauer, head of the World Cup organising committee, admits Germany are not the best team in the competition but believes fan power can compensate for that.

"If we were not at home then we would not be among the favourites," Beckenbauer said in his column with Bild daily.

"But we are co-favourites simply because we are at home. The German public can push us to the final."

"Germany have had their best games when they have been urged on by their own fans."

"In German stadia there are eight wins, four draws and only one defeat (under Klinsmann). And that loss was against Brazil in the Confederations Cup. It offers promise for the World Cup."

Germany start as second favourites for the trophy behind holders Brazil

with England, Argentina and Italy touted as the other contenders.

Jurgen Klinsmann's team defeated Luxembourg 7-0 on Saturday in Freiburg and Beckenbauer senses the fans are starting to get excited with the finals less than a fortnight away.

"The atmosphere was not bad before, but now you really sense that everything is beginning to vibrate and everyone can't wait for the World Cup to start," added Beckenbauer.

The form of captain Michael Ballack is a concern for everyone willing Germany to do well and Beckenbauer admits the new Chelsea star is crucial for the hosts.

"Michael Ballack is the difference as long as he plays better than he has been over the past few months," he said. "I hope our captain overcomes his injury and rediscovers the form of the 2002 World Cup."

Ballack is likely to sit out Germany's next match against Japan on Tuesday due to an ankle injury but is expected to be fully fit for the World Cup opener against Costa Rica on June 9 in Munich.

Karimi provides Iranian sunshine

INTERNET, undated

The 2006 World Cup, and the remainder of the summer that follows it, could be a defining period for a number of players - none more so than the golden boy of Iranian football, Ali Karimi.

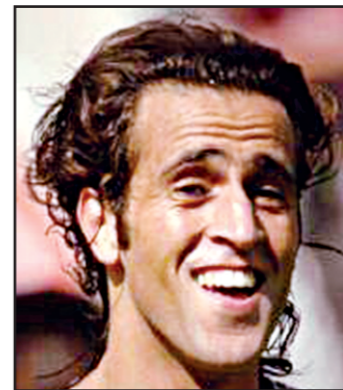
Karimi's skill is not in doubt and his ability to light up a game equally so - but like so many Asian footballers before him, question marks still remain over his value to the better European club sides.

That perennial German champions Bayern Munich are already employing him makes Karimi special - and he has done far better for the Bavarians than the previous two Iranians they have signed, Ali Daei and Vahid Hashemian.

But whether he can take the final step up depends on a number of factors and the departure of Michael Ballack from the Allianz Arena has arguably cleared the biggest of them all.

Karimi has been a regular starter on the wing this season for Bayern, despite facing competition from Sebastian Deisler and veteran favourite Mehmet Scholl.

He has already spelled out the problems he faces at Bayern where,



ALI KARIMI

unlike with his national side, he is not the focal point.

"The Bundesliga obliges me to play differently. Back in Iran and UAE, dribbling and individual moves of mine would fit perfectly well in the system," he told the Iran Sports Press.

"I was able to penetrate the defence and receive a great reception from the fans and coaches. At Bayern, things are different."

"Speed and physical contact as well as the offensive and defensive passes are my number one task, and sometimes that becomes so confusing, then I end up having a poor performance."

"I need to work on this and hope I get used to it."

At 27, Karimi is hovering around his peak - and playing in his adopted homeland for the country that adores him could inspire him to new heights this summer.

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2006 Round 2, Draw in Khulna

Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

Information

A. The **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.

B. There will be **FIVE** rounds of competition.

C. Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of **RANGS TOSHIBA** as per announcement.

D. Participants of all the **FIVE** rounds will automatically qualify for the **Bumper Draw**, which will have even bigger prizes.

E. For each round, a set of questions including a photographic quiz will be published in **The Daily Star**.

F. Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in **The Daily Star**.

G. Winners will have to collect their prizes from the **The Daily Star** office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.

H. Any taxes or levies, as per law, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the prize winners.

Rules

1. 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.

2. All entries must be submitted in the original form printed in **The Daily Star**. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.

3. Forms will have to be cut along the dotted lines.

4. Participants are to put a tick (✓) mark in the box alongside their answer to each question.

5. Aperson may send numerous entries for each round.

6. Entry forms should be completed with a ballpoint pen.

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.

8. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.

9. 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.

10. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked **"Star World Cup Quiz 2"**.

11. Entries may be hand delivered or posted to **The Daily Star**, 19, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

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.

13. Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.

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 **The Daily Star**.

15. Any decision of **The Daily Star** in the conduct of the Quiz competition/s 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.

16. **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.

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

The Daily Star RANGS TOSHIBA World Cup Quiz, Round 2 Ends June 01, 2006

Tick (✓) the correct answers

- The only player to have appeared in three World Cup final matches is:

Matthaus	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maradona	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cafu	<input type="checkbox"/>
Munich	<input type="checkbox"/>	Frankfurt	<input type="checkbox"/>	Berlin	<input type="checkbox"/>
- The 2006 World Cup final will be held in:

5	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- How many goals did France score in the 2002 World Cup?

5	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- Which Asian nation made highest number of appearances in World Cup finals?

Iran	<input type="checkbox"/>	South Korea	<input type="checkbox"/>	Saudi Arabia	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- Who is this player?

Ronaldinho	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drogba	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ronaldo	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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
 You may send as many entries as you like. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked **"Star World Cup Quiz 2."**

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