

The heat is on

AFP, Berlin
German fans vandalised Italian restaurants and torched garbage bins after the host nation was defeated by Italy in the World Cup semifinals, police said on Wednesday.



Italy coach Marcello Lippi (C) jumps in joy after his side netted the first goal against Germany in the semifinal at Dortmund's Westfalen Stadion on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

Budhia eyes Olympic gold

PTI, Jaipur
Orissa's marathon miracle Budhiya Singh, who has non-stop run a distance of 65 kms, today said he cherished a dream to earn an Olympic gold medal for the country.

Clive for British tennis

AFP, London
Former England Rugby Union coach Clive Woodward has been asked to improve Britain's young tennis stars.

Pessotto 'celebrates' Italy victory

INTERNET, undated
Hospitalised Juventus team manager Gianluca Pessotto has reacted with pleasure to Tuesday night's World Cup semifinal win for Italy.

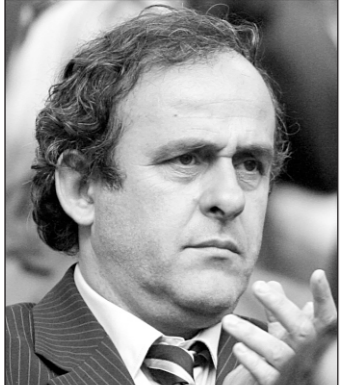
Federer, Hewitt eye semis

REUTERS, London
Roger Federer will hope the past does not come back to haunt him on Wednesday when he faces Mario Ancic in the Wimbledon quarterfinals.



Did U Know?

Contrary to the number of goals scored, there was a record number of yellow and red cards dished out in the 1990 World Cup.



Michel Platini (Former French star)
'There have been some good matches and some not so good, but in general I think the standard of football has not been particularly high.'

Greg hails pace attack

PTI, Kingston
Coach Greg Chappell has described the performance of the young pace bowlers in India's series win in the Caribbean as 'outstanding' and said the team now had the bowlers to win under any condition.

Strauss gets mate's backing

Cricket
BBC ONLINE, undated
England all-rounder Paul Collingwood has backed Andrew Strauss's captaincy credentials despite the 5-0 whitewash by Sri Lanka in the one-day series.

Fuentes accuses 'other sports'

AFP, Madrid
Eufemiano Fuentes, the doctor involved in cycling's blood-doping scandal in Spain, told Spanish radio on Wednesday that tennis, football and athletics were also involved.

'Germany can be proud'

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country proud.
'We are optimistic and confident that these players will get better. We should not be afraid of what is coming up in the future. We have every reason to be optimistic.'

'Football for a better world'

AFP, Berlin
Even as this World Cup reaches a climax with Italy having booked a final spot against France or Portugal on Sunday, eyes are already turning to a South African jamboree in four years time.

Deschamps favourite for Juve job

AFP, Turin
Former France star Didier Deschamps has emerged as the favourite to replace Fabio Capello as the new manager of Juventus, according to reports on Wednesday.

LEADING SCORERS

Table listing World Cup scorers after Tuesday's Italy-Germany semifinal. Includes names like Klose (Germany), Crespo (Argentina), and others with their goal counts.

India slide despite win

BBC ONLINE, undated
India has slipped from third to fourth in the ICC Test rankings, despite winning a series in the West Indies for the first time in 35 years.

THIRD EYE

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A breathtaking strike by left fullback Fabio Grosso two minutes before the end of the two-hour absorbing semifinal and a classic counter-attack finish by Alessandro del Piero within a minute took the scintillating Italy to the final after 12 years, bringing the three-time champions on the verge of reclaiming the trophy after 24 years.

What to WATCH

STAR Sports
Wimbledon Championships
Women's Singles Semis
Live at 5:00 pm

WC BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 20
Domingo to sing out
Opera star Placido Domingo will, as he has done since 1982, clear his throat and launch into song at the World Cup final. This time he will sing a half-time welcome ditty composed by his son Placido Domingo Jr.