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Australia's Michelle Martin, world number one, kisses the cup after winning the British Open women's squash championship, winning 9-1, 9-5, 9-3 on Monday. — AFP photo

Swiss sparkle to be an ascetic guru's apotheosis

GENEVA, Apr 12: The celibate Swiss could spring a surprise in the World Cup finals this summer, reports Reuters.

The squad has already made headlines around the world because of a "sex ban" imposed by England manager Roy Hodgson, who ruled in March that sex and soccer do not mix.

Accordingly the players will be celibate from June 7, 11 days before their opening match against the United States. "I want my players to concentrate totally on football with all their strength. This is not a pleasure trip," said Hodgson, 46.

Given what the Englishman has done with a previously lack-lustre team, however, no-one is complaining.

Under Hodgson's guidance, the players have already acquired the status of national heroes just for qualifying — a feat they last achieved in 1966. They lost only once, away to Portugal, in their 10 qualifiers and finished second behind Italy in Group One, with Portugal edged out in third place.

That defeat has been their only loss in their last 14 international matches and they could make a good impression in America with the crisp, neat soccer that has been their forte under Hodgson for the last two years. They face Romania, Colombia and the United States in the opening round, and their first match against the Americans could well turn out to be the hardest of them all — even if Romania and Colombia are likely to be tougher opponents.

The match against the United States is indoors in the Silverdome in Detroit on June 18 and, while technically superior to the Americans, Hodgson's side will be playing in unfamiliar conditions.

Meanwhile, the home side will doubtless be fired up to impress and gain a morale-boosting opening match victory. Switzerland then play Romania in Detroit and Colombia in San Francisco and are under no illusions that they face a tough passage through to the later stages of the competition. After seeing the South Americans play in the Joe Robbie Cup tournament in Miami in February, Hodgson knows what his side faces.

They will lead the group. They are a fine team and potential quarter-finalists even

without Carlos Valderrama if he does not recover from injury in time," he said.

"If we play even five per cent below our capabilities we will be flying back after the first round".

Hodgson built up his reputation and a trainer with Sweden's Malmö before taking over the Swiss team in January 1992. He has since charmed the fans with heavily-accented — but surprisingly grammatically good — match assessments in both French and German.

He is not due to name his squad until May 10, although his first-choice team looks clear.

Up front he is likely to rely on his four mercenaries from the German Bundesliga, twin strikers Stéphane Chapuisat from Borussia Dortmund and VFB Stuttgart's Adrian Knap and attacking midfielders Ciri Sforza from Kaiserslautern and Alain Sutter from FC Nuernberg.

Young Boys' midfielder general Gedgrès Bregy seems as

Rovers turn up the heat

LONDON, Apr 12: Blackburn Rovers increased the pressure on Manchester United at the top of the English Premier league with a narrow 1-0 win over Aston Villa on Monday, reports Reuters.

Alan Shearer's close-range effort in the 10th minute drew Blackburn level on 79 points with United, although they have played one more game than their rivals and have an inferior goal difference.

The gap between the sides was 16 points in January, but Blackburn were grateful for Shearer's 33rd goal of the season in an often average display. The England international striker was lurking on the edge of the six-yard area to receive Mike Newell's downward header and held off Ugo Ehiogu before finding the net.

Villa boss Ron Atkinson reshuffled his side at half-time, taking off the injured Dean Saunders and stiffening his midfielder with Ray Houghton.

There was an immediate improvement and Blackburn goalkeeper Tim Flowers had to make a superb one-handed save to keep out a rising shot from Graham Fenton.

But Blackburn held firm and have five more matches, starting at relegation-threatened Southampton on Saturday, to press their claims.

Milan expect Van Basten back next season

ROME, Apr 12: AC Milan expect injured striker Marco van Basten to be back in action next season and have confirmed their interest in re-signing his Dutch compatriot Ruud Gullit, club managing director Adriano Galliani said, reports Reuters.

"Next season Milan will be able to call on the world's top centre-forward. The news on Van Basten's health is good. At the end of April he will resume training with us," Galliani was quoted as saying in Sunday's Gazzetta dello Sport.

The three-times European footballer-of-the-year has played virtually no soccer since December 1992, undergoing two operations on an ankle injury which threatened to bring his career to a premature end.

Van Basten has already written off his chances of being fit to play for the Netherlands in this summer's World Cup finals in the United States.

Galliani also confirmed that Gullit could return to Milan after just one season with Sampdoria.

"Gullit interests us... it's probable he will return although everything is hypothetical for the moment," he said.

Gullit, 31, left Milan last summer after six seasons, moving to Sampdoria for the bargain UEFA-fixed fee of around dollars 700,000 and has since confounded those who said he was finished.

The Dutch international has had an excellent season at Sampdoria, scoring 15 league goals and contributing significantly to a team that is currently third in the league, seven points behind Milan who lead the league.

ATP's top 20 money-winners

MONTE CARLO, Apr 12: Leading money winners in men's tennis issued by the ATP tour on Monday, reports Reuters.

1. Pete Sampras (US) 1,115,038 dollars
2. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) 648,489
3. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) 380,465
4. Todd Martin (US) 344,179
5. Petr Korda (Czech Republic) 336,575
6. Paul Haarhuis (Netherlands) 334,110
7. Boris Becker (Germany) 314,775
8. Magnus Gustafsson (Sweden) 314,433
9. Michael Chang (US) 310,225
10. Sergi Bruguera (Spain) 283,580
11. Wayne Ferreira (South Africa) 237,849
12. Jim Courier (US) 234,694
13. Carlos Costa (Spain) 232,415
14. Michael Stich (Germany) 215,587
15. Alexander Volkov (Russia) 214,632
16. Andre Agassi (US) 211,850
17. Jonathan Stark (US) 209,946
18. Jacco Eltingh (Netherlands) 209,188
19. Yevgeny Kafelnikov (Russia) 203,017
20. Henrik Holm (Sweden) 201,967

WTA's leading money-winners

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Apr 12: Top 20 money winners in women's tennis this year as issued by the Women's Tennis Association on Monday, reports Reuters.

1. Steffi Graf (Germany) 774,065 dollars
2. Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario (Spain) 413,600
3. Natalia Zvereva (Belarus) 359,327
4. Conchita Martinez (Spain) 233,534
5. Martina Navratilova (US) 213,000
6. Lindsay Davenport (US) 199,284
7. Kimiko Date (Japan) 195,333
8. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) 166,083
9. Gigi Fernandez (US) 156,746
10. Jana Novotna (Czech Republic) 140,985
11. Sabine Hack (Germany) 131,279
12. Mary Pierce (France) 115,179
13. Meredith McGrath (US) 109,961
14. Manuela Maleeva (Bulgaria) 109,459
15. Chanda Rubin (US) 101,511
16. Patty Fendick (US) 100,762
17. Larissa Neiland (Latvia) 95,078
18. Amanda Coetzer (South Africa) 95,014
19. Lori McNeil (US) 89,350
20. Manon Bollegraf (Netherlands) 86,583

UAE to fill the gap

FRANKFURT, Apr 12: World champions Germany have given up hope of playing on the anniversary of Adolf Hitler's birthday next week and have arranged a replacement friendly against the United Arab Emirates in Abu Dhabi a week later, reports Reuters.

The German Soccer Federation (DFB) announced the April 27 fixture on Monday, after England's decision last week to pull out of a friendly in Berlin on April 20 because of fears of extremist violence.

Coach Berti Vogts wanted to play the UAE because he felt they had a similar style to South Korea who are drawn with Bolivia and Spain in Germany's first-round group in the World Cup finals in the United States.

Vogts' team play pre-World Cup friendlies against Ireland in Hanover on May 29 and against Austria in Vienna on June 2. The German's last test before the finals is against Canada in Toronto on June 8.

For 'em, it's been quite a while



RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 12: It is a sobering thought that many of the players who will perform in this year's World Cup finals were not even born the last time Brazil were world champions, reports Reuters.

Sobering, because for anyone on the planet who is over 35 years old and remotely interested in football, Brazil were the ultimate world champions.

Their performances in the 1970 World Cup in Mexico when they won the old Jules Rimet Cup for the third and final time, are widely regarded as being the greatest ever seen from a national side.

It comes as something of a shock to realise that nearly a quarter-of-a-century has passed since their 4-1 win over Italy in the final in the Aztec Stadium. But there is some encouraging news for soccer's army of global romantics.

Coach Carlos Alberto Parreira is adamant that Brazil will play with their traditional sparkle this summer.

He has publicly stated he will not be drawn into the same trap as his predecessor Sebastiao Lazaroni, who attempted to impose a sweeper system on players who detest having their soccer freedom restricted.

Instead, Brazil will go back to their roots and base their game on the qualities which European soccer nations have long envied — technique, artistry and a commitment to all-out attack.

One of Parreira's oft-quoted remarks is, "You can't put Brazilian players in a strait-

jacket." And he adds, "Brazilian players have to be given freedom and that is what I have been doing since I became coach."

That does not mean that we are not going to be disciplined when we haven't got the ball. And we are not going to play with five attackers in the team.

"I know the Europeans would love us to play with ten attackers, then they could waltz through our defence at will."

Lazaroni's methods were largely accepted in Brazil until the team was eliminated in the second round of the 1990 World Cup by Argentina, having scored just four goals in four games.

Then the recriminations began against Lazaroni himself — who said on his return he was treated like a criminal delinquent.

Brazil had previously dallied with a more physical, European approach. In 1974 and 1978 and again they succeeded only in alienating many of their admirers.

Parreira's promise of a return to Brazilian sparkle is likely to be a relief to everyone from organisers hoping to make soccer attractive to the American public to soccer connoisseurs praying for an improvement on the much-criticised 1990 World Cup.

Brazil, winners in 1958, 1962 and 1970, boast a unique record of having taken part in every World Cup final — even though their road to the finals this time was a little rockier than usual.

They had to wait until their third qualifier to record their first victory — but then reeled

off five wins in their remaining six matches to qualify along with Bolivia while their old rivals Uruguay were eliminated.

Their failure to add a fourth title since 1970, despite being among the favourites at every subsequent tournament, has been put down to a mixture of bad luck, suicidal defending, the failed attempts to change their style and clashes of egos within the squad.

They will once again be among the favourites in the United States and Parreira is determined to avoid a repetition of the self-destruct act.

"One of our biggest challenges will be to achieve unity among the players," said Parreira.

Parreira has already slapped a ban on relatives and agents entering the team hotel and has also banned his players from publicly criticising teammates or making suggestions for the line-up.

Brazil's press was littered with reports of indiscipline during the 1990 World Cup and daily television bulletins carried interviews with players criticising team selection.

Anyone who disobeys, this time is likely to be, given an early ticket home.

Parreira, who was physiotherapist in 1970, is delighted that Brazil will be playing first round games near San Francisco, avoiding the oppressive heat and humidity of the eastern venues.

But, with many top players scattered around Europe, he complains of the limited time available for training.

"In 1970, we had three months with the squad together. This time we will have only 15 days," he said.

Brazil's only confirmed

friendlies before the finals are at home to Iceland in May and away to Canada in early June.

Fortunately, Parreira has already established the core of his team with goalkeeper Taffarel, defenders Jorginho and Ricardo Gomes, midfielders Mauro Silva, Dunga and Zinho and attackers Bebeto and Romario all looking like certain starters.

On the playing side, the question mark hangs over Rai, the team captain and midfield playmaker. The brother of former international Socrates, Rai has suffered a miserable patch of form since moving to French club Paris St Germain from Sao Paulo last year.

Yet Parreira has built his team around the elegant midfielder and is still gambling on him to recapture his form. "It's easier for us to get him back to his best than find someone else with similar characteristics," said Parreira.

Muller in a mess

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 12: Brazilian international striker Muller was dropped by his club Sao Paulo on Sunday after failing to travel with the team on a trip to Japan last week, reports Reuters.

The former Torino striker claimed injury for not making the journey to play the South American Recopa final against Botafogo, another Brazilian side.

Sao Paulo director Marcelo Aranha said the case would be discussed this week.

Without their top striking Sao Paulo were held 0-0 in the Sao Paulo championship game against Santos, who climbed to fifth after finding themselves bottom at an earlier stage of the competition.



The Daily Star

WorldCupUSA94 Quiz Competition



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Quiz 2.

Entries close on 23-04-94

Read the instructions carefully. Then tick (✓) the answer which you think is correct.

- Who was the youngest player to play in a World Cup?

Pele	☐	Whiteside	☐	Vava	☐
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- How many red cards were shown in the '90 World Cup?

12	☐	16	☐	20	☐
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- Against whom did Pele score his first World Cup goal?

Wales	☐	France	☐	Sweden	☐
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- How many qtr-finals went to the tie-break in '86?

All	☐	2	☐	3	☐
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- When did E Germany play in the World Cup finals?

1962	☐	1970	☐	1974	☐
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- Which country will host the 1998 World Cup?

Norway	☐	China	☐	France	☐
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- Which goalkeeper has played in 5 World Cups?

Zoff	☐	Carbajal	☐	Felix	☐
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- How many goals did P Rossi score in the '82 World Cup?

4	☐	6	☐	8	☐
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- How many World Cup goals did Gerd Muller score?

10	☐	12	☐	14	☐
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- What was Muller's jersey number?

9	☐	11	☐	13	☐
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COMPETITION RULES

- The Daily Star World Cup Quiz'94 is a series of (5) Quiz Competitions on World Cup Football. Sets of questions will be published for (10) consecutive days in the Sports Page of the Daily Star for the first (5) Quiz Competitions. For the last and final Bumper Quiz Competition, a set of questions will be published for one month in the Sports Page of the Daily Star according to the schedule (Picture of the Rounds) as fixed by the Daily Star authorities.
- For the first (5) Quiz Competitions there will be 1st, 2nd, 3rd and (5)th consolation prizes. The prizes will be Colour TV, Black & White TV, Super Turbo 2-in-1 Stereo Recorder and light bulbs respectively.
- Any taxes or levies, as per rule, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the winners.
- Names and addresses of all prize-winners will be published in the Daily Star. Winners will be responsible for collecting their prizes from the Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.
- For the Bumper Quiz Competition, there will be the BUMPER PRIZE consisting of a ticket to the World Cup Final match, along with an Economy Class return air ticket (Dhaka-Los Angeles-Dhaka) and an amount for incidental expenses. The Daily Star does NOT take any responsibility for any visa or other travel documents that may be required. The BUMPER PRIZE Winner will have to make his/her own arrangements in this regard. In case of the Bumper Prize winner's inability to travel to the USA he/she may choose to receive a sum of Tk.100,000/- in cash in lieu of the air fare and living expenses.
- Each entry form should be clearly filled in complete with a ball-point pen. Participant's name, address, father's name must be clearly written. Each entry form must bear the correct date and signature of the participant.
- Participants must ensure the following. All entries must reach the office of the Daily Star on or before the closing date marked on the entry form. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "STAR QUIZ". Entries may be hand delivered or sent by post to: Daily Star House No.11, Road No.3, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka-1205.
- Entries will be opened by the Daily Star authorities. Entries with all correct answers will be placed in a sealed box for the lucky draw, to be held on the notified/appointed date in public in the presence of invited guests and quiz participants, if any.
- The Daily Star authorities, in their absolute discretion, reserve the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of the Daily Star World Cup Quiz'94 in any circumstances.
- All participants agree to abide by all rules, instructions and guide-lines as may be issued, from time to time, by the Daily Star authorities. Participants' entry in the quiz competition shall be construed as their respective agreement to all such rules, instructions and guidelines.
- Any decision of the Daily Star authorities 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.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

FATHER'S NAME: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Write with a ball-point pen in clear, CAPITAL LETTERS. Cut along the dotted lines and mail it to us FAST!



Members of the Dhaka Club tennis team (From left, Nazem Kamran Chowdhury, Habibur Rahman, Bhutto, Syed Mahmud, Shamsur Rahman Mashuk) which lost to Gulshan Club in the final of the Inter Club teams' tennis tournament at the Gulshan Club court yesterday. — Star photo