

Torpedo's noble act

MOSCOW, July 22: Torpedo Moscow renamed their stadium on Monday after Eduard Streltsov, arguably Russia's greatest ever footballer who spent his finest playing years in a Siberian gulag for a crime his friends say he did not commit, reports Reuter.

The man dubbed "the Russian Pele", who was denied the chance to face the great Brazilian after being arrested on the eve of the 1958 World Cup finals, would have been 60 on Monday.

Streltsov, who came back from six years in the gulag to lead Torpedo to the 1965 Soviet Championship, died seven years ago of cancer, mourned by millions of fans but overlooked by the Soviet establishment which his friends believe had him framed.

"He suffered many injustices," his Torpedo and Soviet playing partner Valentin Ivanov said as the foundation stone was laid for a monument to Streltsov at the stadium.

ESPN, Star Sports cricket deal with CSI

SINGAPORE, July 22: ESPN Star Sports has announced a four-year agreement with CSI Limited which provides exclusive live television rights across Asia for CSI-distributed cricket events for both ESPN and STAR Sports. The agreement encompasses the cricket tours of Australia, South Africa and New Zealand over the next four years, totalling over 3000 hours of live cricket coverage, says a press release.

According to Alexander Brown, ESPN Star Sports' Managing Director, "We are delighted to be able to continue to strengthen the quality of cricket coverage offered across both of our networks. The agreement with CSI will ensure that ESPN Star Sports will be able to provide our viewers with the widest range of both domestic and international cricket available through the millennium."

This is the first time that we are signing such a deal since the merger of ESPN Star Sports. With the networks' wide audience reach, our cricket will not only reach fans in India but also the increasing number of cricket-lovers all across Asia. We will provide high quality cricket to suit the ever-increasing expectations from viewers, federations and broadcasters alike," said Karl Bistany, chief executive of CSI.

Prestigious events from the package include the 1998/1999 England tour of Australia ('The Ashes'), India and Pakistan in Australia in 1999/2000, Pakistan and Sri Lanka touring South Africa in 1998, the 1998 World Youth Cup in South Africa and the West Indies tour of South Africa in 1999. Viewers can catch the action - live - on either or both ESPN and Star Sports.

ESPN Star Sports is a joint venture formed in November 1996 between two of the world's leading cable and satellite broadcasters, ESPN Inc and Star TV. The joint venture is comprised of sports channel ESPN, reaching 20 million homes throughout Asia, and Star Sports which is seen by more than 61 million households.

ESPN Star Sports brings the world's premier live sports as well as leading regional events to viewers in Asia 24 hours a day in English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Hindi.

CALENDAR**AUSTRALIAN CRICKET**

1998/1999 England tour of Australia

- 5 Tests (The Ashes) & 15 one-day internationals

1999/2000 India and Pakistan tour of Australia

- 3 Test matches each, 12 one-day internationals and the best of 3 finals

SOUTH AFRICAN CRICKET

1998 Pakistan and Sri Lanka tour of South Africa

- 2 Tests & 11 one-day internationals

1998 World Youth Cricket Cup in South Africa

- All 12 final series games

1999 West Indies tour of South Africa

- 5 Tests & 7 one-day internationals

NEW ZEALAND CRICKET

1998/1999 South African tour of New Zealand

- 3 Tests & 5 one-day internationals

1999/2000 Australian tour of New Zealand

- 3 Tests & 5 one-day internationals

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1997

(All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programme)

BBC

6:00am BBC World News 8:30

World Living - Airport 7:00 BBC

World News inc. World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours

10:00 BBC World News 10:30

World Focus: Reporters 11:00 BBC

Newshub 12:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC

World News 1:30 World Focus: Reporters 2:00 BBC

Newsdesk 2:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC

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