

## Wembley towers shifting to new museum

LONDON, Apr 27: Wembley Stadium's famous twin towers, due to be demolished to make way for a new national stadium, are to be moved 200 miles (320 kilometres) to a new museum, it was announced on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Halton Borough Council said it will re-build the historic white towers in Widnes, in the north western county of Cheshire, as part of a 5-million-pound (8-million-dollar) bid to house the new National Rugby League Museum.

Council officials negotiated for the nine-storey towers to be gifted to the borough and have been given until December to remove them.

The council is still in negotiations with the Rugby League over the new museum, but separately won the right to transfer the twin towers to Widnes.

Although Wembley is usually associated with football, the Rugby League cup final has been staged there for many years.

A team of architects will now begin a one-million-pound (1.6-million-dollar) operation to move the structures from their north London home to a plot of derelict land on the banks of the Mersey river near Liverpool.

### Borg will be there

LONDON, Apr 27: Five-times champion Björn Borg will return to the Wimbledon tennis championships in July for the first time since his dramatic defeat by John McEnroe in the 1981 final — not as a player but for a parade of champions, reports Reuters.

Sixty-seven players, who were either former champions or finalists in the men's and women's singles, will gather on Centre Court on July 1 for a ceremony marking the new millennium.

Four women's singles champions are unable to attend, but only one men's champion, American Jimmy Connors, will be missing.

Organisers did not know why Connors had turned down the offer.

Ivan Lendl, who qualified as a two-times losing finalist, is also not able to attend because of his golfing commitments.

To qualify for the parade players had to have won a singles title or a doubles or mixed doubles title four times or more, or have lost in at least two singles finals.

### European Cup sent to Paris

PARIS, Apr 27: Sir Bobby Charlton handed the European Cup over to the safekeeping of the city of Paris on Wednesday where this year's Champions' League final will be played at the Stade de France on May 24, reports Reuters.

Sir Bobby presented the trophy to Paris mayor Jean Tiberi and Patrick Braouesec, mayor of the suburb of St Denis where the stadium is located.

### Anglo, German fans' noble gesture

LONDON, Apr 27: English and German football supporters will unite in Charleroi next week ahead of this summer's Euro 2000 clash in the Belgian city, the England Members Club said on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Representatives of the club will undertake their latest goodwill mission accompanied by ex-English international stars Gary Lineker, Tony Woodcock and Trevor Steven.

The party will meet their German counterparts before visiting a children's hospital and will then hold a coaching session at a local school.

Woodcock said: "I think it's great to see supporters coming up with these initiatives. I've played the game in both countries and realise that the vast majority of fans want to follow football in a friendly, safe environment."

### Bangladesh open

From page 13  
at 5 pm on Sunday while Bangladesh will play India at 10:20 am on Monday.

On completion of double league basis matches, two top teams of each men's and women's groups will play the finals.

The women's final will commence at 3 pm while the men's final is scheduled for 4:15 pm on May 2.

In the first meet which was held in 1996 Bangladesh were placed third among four teams in the men's group and finished second among three in the women's.

**Bangladesh Television will telecast the finals and the closing function live on May 2.**

### Pakistan's lone

From page 13  
Saqlain Mushtaq, Arshad Khan, Wajahatullah Wasti, Mohammed Wasim, Mohammad Akram.

**WEST INDIES UNDER-23** (from) Darren Ganga (captain), Azeemul Haniff, Sylvester Joseph, Ryan Hinds, Runako Morton, Marlon Samuels, Camillus Alexander, Pedro Collins, Jermaine Lawson, Kerry Jeremy, Wayne Phillip, Ryan Cunningham.

## Brazil toil, Argentina amble

UNDATED, Apr 27: Brazil recovered from an almighty fight as they came from behind to beat Ecuador 3-2 in a World Cup qualifier on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

Argentina continued their impressive start to the World Cup qualifiers on Wednesday by mercilessly hammering minnows Venezuela 4-0 away from home.

Trouble erupted in La Paz where a linesman was struck by a bottle thrown from the crowd during Bolivia's 1-1 draw with Colombia, and there was controversy when Colombia coach Luis Augusto Garcia later complained that playing at mid-day and at 3,600 metres above sea level was "inhuman".

### BRAZIL-ECUADOR

Modest Ecuador stunned the four-times world champions by taking an early lead with a magnificent goal by Alex Aguinaga in Sao Paulo.

Brazil turned the game around with two close range goals by Rivaldo and one by defender Antonio Carlos, but the gallant Ecuadoreans gave them an uncomfortable finish when Ulises de la Cruz pulled a goal back late in the game.

The result left Brazil with four points from two games in the South American qualifying group, one more than Ecuador. But despite impressive performances from midfielders Vampeta and Rivaldo, the Brazilians never fully got into gear.

Aguinaga, returning to the country where he performed superbly for Mexico's Necaxa in the World Club Championship earlier this year, had other ideas.

He stunned the Morumbi stadium when he chipped goal-kicker Dida from 25 metres to put Ecuador ahead in the 12th minute.

The fickle crowd quickly began to jeer their team until Rivaldo equalised five minutes later with a shot on the turn from close range.

Ecuador suffered a bitter blow in the 38th minute, when the inspirational Aguinaga slipped off after twisting his knee.

Brazil went ahead two minutes before halftime, when Antonio Carlos, who had stayed up after a corner, scored from close range.

The Brazilians then appeared to be cruising when Rivaldo scored again in the 52nd minute from a rebound, after Ecuador's Francisco Cevallos failed to hold a header by Amoroso.

But Ecuador refused to capitulate and 14 minutes from time were under pressure again when de la Cruz cut inside his marker and scored with a dipping left foot shot into the top corner.

Vampeta, not for the first time, marred his performance with a vicious tackle on de la Cruz for which he was enormously lucky to escape with only a yellow card.

### ARGENTINA-VENEZUELA

Two goals from Ariel Ortega and one apiece from Roberto Ayala and Hernan Crespo gave Argentina a maximum six

points from their two games with an impressive eight goals scored.

The two-time champions had earlier beaten Chile 4-1.

The visitors made light of a bumpy pitch and blustery conditions in the oil city of Maracaibo.

Ayala quickly shattered

Venezuelan hopes of an upset when he rose at the far post to head in a corner taken by captain Juan Sebastian Veron in the eighth minute.

Venezuela created three good chances to equalise but were sunk when Ortega scored with a diving header at the far post after two defenders both failed to cut out Veron's cross from the right.

Peru claimed a valuable

away World Cup qualifying point as they held Chile to a 1-1 draw in a typically tense meeting between the two South American neighbours.

Peru midfielder Juan Jayo

fired the visitors ahead with a

goal.

Galatasaray advanced on to

the final on a 4-2 aggregate after drawing 2-2 with the British club in the highly-tense game in Leeds. The Istanbul club had won the first leg 2-0.

Galatasaray is to meet Arse-

nal in the May 17 final in Copenhagen.

—AFP photo

powerful long-range drive in the 38th minute to silence a 55,000 crowd at the National Stadium, his shot appearing to catch goalkeeper Nelson Tapia off his line.

Chile equalised three minutes later when defender Javier Margas, who plays his club football in England with West Ham, scored with a low shot from outside the penalty after a free kick was tapped to him.

Peru's away point partially avenged their 4-1 defeat in Santiago in the qualifying competition for the 1998 World Cup. That result had proved critical as Chile eventually piped Peru on goal difference for the last South American place at the World Cup.

In contrast, Wednesday's result was a severe setback for Chile, who are poor travellers and are looking to good performances at home to qualify.

Paraguay claimed their first victory of the World Cup qualifying campaign, beating Uruguay by a single goal.

—AFP photo

RESULTS IN BRIEF

Bolivia 1 Colombia 1

Paraguay 1 Uruguay 0

Venezuela 0 Argentina 4

Brazil 3 Ecuador 2

Chile 1 Peru 0

—AFP photo

STANDINGS

Argentina 2 2 0 0 8 1 6

Peru 2 1 1 0 3 1 4

Brazil 2 1 1 0 3 2 4

Ecuador 2 1 0 1 4 3 3

Uruguay 2 1 0 1 1 1 3

Paraguay 2 1 0 1 1 2 3

Colombia 2 0 2 0 1 1 2

Bolivia 2 0 1 1 1 2 1

Chile 2 0 1 1 2 5 1

Venezuela 2 0 0 2 0 6 0

—AFP photo

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Ecuador 2 1 0 1 4 3 3

Uruguay 2 1 0 1 1 1 3

Paraguay 2 1 0 1 1 2 3

Colombia 2 0 2 0 1 1 2

Bolivia 2 0 1 1 1 2 1

Chile 2 0 0 2 0 6 0

—AFP photo

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Brazil 2 1 1 0 3 2 4

Ecuador 2 1 0 1 4 3 3

Uruguay 2 1 0 1 1 1 3

Paraguay 2 1 0 1 1 2 3

Colombia 2 0 2 0 1 1 2

Bolivia 2 0 1 1 1 2 1

Chile 2 0 0 2 0 6 0

—AFP photo

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Brazil 2 1 1 0 3 2 4

Ecuador 2 1 0 1 4 3 3

Uruguay 2 1 0 1 1 1 3

Paraguay 2 1 0 1 1 2 3

Colombia 2 0 2 0 1 1 2

Bolivia 2 0 1 1 1 2 1

Chile 2 0 0 2 0 6 0

—AFP photo

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