

SPORT

The Paily Star

in 1hr 39min, while Jennifer Capriati

the third seed, eased past Daja

Bedanova, the 26th seed from the

American Chanda Rubin while

Capriati advances to face Eleni

Daniilidou of Greece for a place in

Granville upset former French and

Australian Open champion Marv

Pierce 3-6, 6-4, 6-1, and next meets

another France's Amelie Mauresmo

the ninth seed, who defeated

Russian Anastasia Myskina 6-4, 6-2.

Dokic, a semifinalist in 2000. next

American qualifier Laura

Serena next meets fellow

Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-2.

the quarterfinals.

Yuvraj stops England

AFP, London

Yuvraj Singh was the unlikely hero of the Indian attack as England were held to 271 for seven in their NatWest triangular series one-day international at Lord's here on Saturday.

Yuvraj, who had taken just 12 wickets in his previous 33 one-day internationals, saw his occasional left-arm spin yield a career-best three for 39 in India's first match of the tournament.

Marcus Trescothick top scored for England with 86 and captain Nasser Hussain made 54 for the other major contribution before the innings petered out.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the England innings in their triangular series one-day international against India at Lord's on Saturdav

ENGLAND Trescothick c Dravid b Ganguly 86 Knight run out 54 22 12 28 Hussain st Dravid b Yuvraj Flintoff c Mongia b Yuvraj Thorpe c Sehwag b Yuvraj Stewart not out Irani run out Collingwood c Dravid b Zaheer Giles not out Extras: (b-2, lb-6, w-8, nb-2) 18 Total (For 7 wkts in 50 overs) 271

Fall of wickets: 1-86, 2-153, 3-201 4-217, 5-222, 6-256, 7-267 Did not bat: J Kirtley, M Hoggard

Bowler	Ó	M
Zaheer	9	0
Agarkar	8	0
Harbhajan	10	0
Kumble	10	0
Ganguly	6	0
· · · ·	-	~

39 Yuvra INDIA: Sourav Ganguly, Virender Sehwag, Dinesh Mongia, Sachin Tendulkar. Rahul Dravid Yuvraj Singh, Mohammad Kaif. Aiit Agarkar, Harbhajan Singh, Anil Kumble, Zaheer Khan.

Watch WC final at Sheraton

PRESS RELEASE

The Sheraton Hotel, in collaboration with an event management company, has made special arrangements to show tomorrow's World Cup final between Brazil and Germany live on a large screen. The onscreen World Cup celebra-

tion party will be held at the Winter Garden

Fastest Sukur FROM PAGE 13

seconds. German Ernst Lehner scored a goal after 24 seconds against Auštria in 1934. England's Bryan Robson registered the next fastest World Cup goal. On June 16, 1982 in Spain, the midfielder took only 27 seconds to score against France.

Hakan Sukur's historic goal was the 36th for his country in 80 appear-ances -- both are Turkish national team records. The 30-year-old had not scored in Turkey's previous six matches in Korea/Japan.



Football

SPORTS REPORTER

The proposed Shaheed Ziaur Rahman International Football Tournament in Chittagong faces uncertainty after the organisers failed to obtain approval from the Asian Football Confederation (AFC)

The first ever international meet in the port city named after late president Ziaur Rahman, was scheduled to start on July 1. But the organisers Chattagram Zela Krira Sangstha (CJKS) were forced to postpone the meet for an indefinite period on Friday after the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) declared that obtaining per-

mission from the AFC would take at least two or three weeks. The decision came as a blow for

Cloud over Zia meet month, invited four Dhaka giants CJKS officials are likely to hold a and one team each from India, press conference in Dhaka on July 1 Nepal and Myanmar for the proto clarify the situation.

It was also gathered that CJKS are determined to go ahead with the meet inviting only the local clubs. Yet, while both the organisers

and BFF appear to be at loggerheads over the meet, they are not at all serious about fixing a date for the Dhaka Premier League and even Federation Cup itself.

The League was supposed to kick off on July 15 after tournament ended. But with a cloud hanging over the Chittagong meet, it now looks unlikely when the top league in the country will eventually begin.

outside the off stump just after the

interval and edged the ball to Brian

Scoreboard at stumps on the first

day of the second Test between

New Zealand and the West Indies at

95

24

6

0

69

1

12

R w

46

47

62 0

13

5 0

0

1

м

9 29 3

7

9

3

the Queen's Park on Friday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

Richardson c Gayle b Collins

Fleming c Lara b Collins

Harris c Jacobs b Hooper

Vettori c Jacobs b Collins

Extras: (w-2, nb-4, lb-6)

Total: (For 5 wkts in 93 overs) 208

Fall of wickets: 1-61, 2-81, 3-82, 4-

O

19

22

13

25

11

WEST INDIES: Wavell Hinds,

Chris Gayle, Ramnaresh Sarwan,

Brian Lara, Carl Hooper, Shivnarine

Chanderpaul, Ridley Jacobs,

Mahendra Nagamootoo, Pedro

Collins, Cameron Cuffey, Adam

I ara at first slip. He scored just six.

SCOREBOARD

Vincent b Cuffy

Astle not out

205.5-206

Bowler

Collins

Cuffy

Sanford

Hooper

Sanford

Gavle

Nagamootoo

McMillan not out

"Nobody can dare think about the Premier League until the current situation is resolved. As things stand the Dhaka-based clubs are destined to suffer because of the ongoing crisis," quipped a BFF official preferring anonymity yesterday.

Tendulkar to be a TV presenter Yevgeny, Andy gone too a TV presenter AFP. New Delhi

Tennis India's master batsman, Sachin Tendulkar, has signed a contract AFP, London with London-based television net-

work ESPN-Star Sports to become a Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the TV presenter, ESPN said on its fifth seed, and Andy Roddick of the website Saturday United States, on Friday joined the Though ESPN said the contract list of top names to exit Wimbledon fee was a "commercial secret," leaving the men's title chase wide

open.

Kiefer.

seeded Roddick.

Kafelnikov, a former French and

Australian Open champion, slumped

7-6, 7-5, 6-1 to Belgian 27th seed

Xavier Malisse, as British hope Greg

Rusedski claimed the scalp of 11th-

loser George Bastl and Belgian

tournament favourites Andre Agassi

Australian wild card Mark

Philippoussis stayed on course in his

bid to emulate Goran Ivanisevic's

achievement a year ago by booking

a place in the fourth round at the

expense of Germany's Nicolas

The International Cricket Council

(ICC) has failed to reach an agree-

ment on compensation for

cancelled tours, ICC president

(PCB), which has lost about 25

million dollars from cancelled tours

since last year, is demanding com-

pensation from the ICC who dis-

cussed the issue at an executive

ICC) was asked to come up with the

establishment of a compensation

fund, but this wasn't adopted by the

executive board yesterday," said

pensation fund. Is it a problem of just

losses or cash flow? The most

important thing for the ICC is to

make sure that cricket is continued

The West Indies refused to tour

Pakistan earlier this year over

security concerns while New

"It's not just as simple as a com-

"The finance committee (of the

board meeting on Wednesday.

The Pakistan Cricket Board

The elimination of all but two of

respectively Wednesday.

Cricket

REUTERS, London

Malcolm Gray said.

Gray on Thursday.

to be played.

FROM PAGE 13

India's Hindustan Times, quoting unidentified sources, said the deal was worth 120 million rupees (2.5 million dollars). Tendulkar's exclusive contract to

"front the television channel" is comparable to the multi-million dollar tie-up between United States' ace golfer Tiger Woods and Disney the Times of India said.

Manu Sawhney, managing director of ESPN Software India, told the Times of India that Tendulkar would launch his career as TV presenter within a year. The batsman's TV debut would

be seen in nearly 50 countries, including throughout South Asia and the Gulf region, Sawhney said. ESPN-Star currently reaches around 28 million Indian households.

The ESPN-Star Sports website quoted Tendulkar as saying that he was "looking forward" to his partner-

ship with the sports channel. Tendulkar, who renewed a fiveyear contract with WorldTel last year worth approximately 20 million dollars, currently endorses Adidas, Visa, Pepsi, Fiat and a number of Indian brands.

WorldTel manages players and also telecasts live cricket matches in India and internationally. Tendulkar is currently in England

with the Indian team, who are facing England and Sri Lanka in a triangular one-day series before playing the first of four Tests at Lord's on July 25. Known in India as "the Little

Genius", Tendulkar in the recent series against the West Indies equalled Australia great Don Bradman's record of 29 Test hundreds but then went on to make three ducks in his next four innings. This week he was among six players nominated by their peers for

the International Cricketer of the Year award.

Phenomenal! AP, Yokohama

Brazil's Ronaldo is not only the leading candidate for the Golden Boot Award, he also is poised to score the most goals in a single

tournament in 24 years. The Inter Milan striker will have a chance to add to his tournament high total of six goals on Sunday when Brazil meets Germany in the World Cup championship game in Yokohama.

seconds. If Ronaldo finds the back of the net, he will be the first player to score seven goals at a World Cup that we're born with since Poland's Gregorz Lato did it in

1974 The Brazilian forward, however, said the distinction was secondary the men's favourites -- Lleyton time quarterfinalist here, is among

The 25-year-old, who has come back from an injury-ravaged three years, came away a 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 winner in 2hrs 17 minutes after

Philippoussis next meets 1996 run of Paradorn 7-6, 6-4, 6-2 in one quarterfinals.

Also falling were Thailand's champion Pete Sampras' champion-Paradorn Srichaphan, Swiss lucky ship, slumped to Argentine 28th seed David Nalbandian, 6-2, 6-2, 6-Oliver Rochus, who had ousted 2, while Rochus, who ousted second-seed Safin, fell 6-0, 7-5, 6-3 to Pete Sampras and Marat Safin Frenchman Arnaud Clement.

Kafelnikov could not find the winning formula against Malisse with nine double faults, and just 47 per cent of his first serves in.

In the women's singles, second seed Serena Williams struggled but advanced to the fourth round beating Belgian gualifier Els Callens 7-6, 7-6

Australia are scheduled to tour

Pakistan in October, although the

visit is unlikely to go ahead because

of ongoing security fears in the

A plan for Australia to host a two-

ICC chief executive Malcolm

Test series against Pakistan was

rejected by the PCB on Wednesday.

Speed, speaking at the inaugural

ICC Cricket Business Forum at

Lord's on Thursday, said: "We want

this situation resolved as soon as

parties together and look at all the

options. Ultimately it's a matter for

the two boards, the PCB and the

Australian Cricket Board to work

"The ICC's role is to bring the

team's hotel in Karachi.

region.

possible

out.

Hewitt and Tim Henman -- means that Philippoussis, nicknamed Scud for his powerful serve and a threethe leading title contenders.

slamming down 33 aces.

champion Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands, who ended the dream hour, 43-minutes, for a place in the

Earlier Rubin, Yugoslav Jelena Bastl, who ended seven-time Dokic, and Slovak Daniela Hantuchova powered their way into the fourth round in straight sets. Dokic, the seventh seed, dumped France's Nathalie Dechy 7-5, 6-2 in 74 minutes while unseeded Rubin continued her recent excellent form

by ousting Russian Tatiana Panova the 21st seed, 6-4, 6-1 in 56 minutes. meets 11th seed Hantuchova who beat

Slovenian Maia Matevzic 6-4, 6-4,

No compensation deal Zealand abandoned their series series against the West Indies was after a bomb exploded outside the

played in the desert city of Sharjah. Despite these problems. Grav insisted that the 10-year tour programme was still in place although he admitted implementing it was complex.

The programme was started last summer and is aimed at building a league table based on each country playing each other home and away, at least once, in a 10-year cycle.

"The ICC has been working to bring this in to make sure the newer member countries get their fair share of Test cricket," he said. "This year has seen events beyond our

control impact on the game. "Our task is to make sure we find ways to play and protect the game whatever the situation. We must make sure series take place by being flexible with dates, times and venues. If we can do that it would be a major achievement for the ICC."

"Ideally the series will go on in Pakistan. If it can't there are a number of options such as a neutral One initiative that will definitely venue like Sharjah or Morocco. The come into force is the one-day important thing if the series has to rankings system. Speed confirmed that all one-day internationals

be relocated is to maximise the revenue for Pakistan.' played after September 1 would Earlier this year the PCB said it count towards the rankings. only just broke even after the home

mentor to Ronaldo since the super-He said: "You could see he was pain in the semi-final against star was first picked for the Brazilian Turkey but he did what manager side at 17. Luiz Scolari asked of him. The

Now 25, he is still suffering in the wake of four years of injury. Yet Carlos Alberto believes 'The Phenomenon' remains a lethal force

He admitted: "Ronaldo is not the goals for the national team, trailing

dous power to decide matches in

"They will produce something out of nothing. It's a Brazilian skill "Without doubt, there are no

other players in the world today as at the highest level. good as Ronaldo and Ronaldinho. I'd even include Rivaldo in that. No

knows it.

as well.

bare feet."

him

and South Korea.

There's a real smile there."

But no German with any sense

will be forgetting about Ronaldinho

Romario warned: "He has every-

thing to be as big as Ronaldo and

Rivaldo in world football. He's bright,

Even Brazilian president

Fernando Henrique Cardoso,

currently grappling with his coun-

try's deep financial crisis, has found

the time to keep one eye on Japan

has made the biggest impression on

And it has been Ronaldo who

Cardoso rates Ronaldo as an

Show-stoppers

player he was four years ago. He's

FIFA. "The conscience of none of

FROM PAGE 13 two late goals. "It is too easy to celebrate with them can be sponsored by anyone," he said. "My conscience is clear." Collina will have assistant refer-ees Leif Lindberg of Sweden and the winners," Collina said. "It is more important to stay close to the losers. When you see someone crying it's England's Philip Sharp running the normal to try to say something to lines for him on Sunday with them, even if it changes nothing.

Scotland's Hugh Dallas as the fourth He knows the German team official especially well, taking charge of The appointment of four heir crushing 5-1 defe to Fngland Europeans for the final ha

two finalists, knowing whether a team would play with three defenders or four, whether "a very tough midfield would press the opponent or let them play. It's completely different and the referee must know anticipate, how the play will develop.

Umpires: Rudi Koetzen (South Africa) and Sri Venkataraghavan full and loose ball from Pedro Collins (India)

They blamed BFF for being indifferent According to The Daily Star's CJKS, who in a brisk move last Chittagong Bureau office last night, WI keep NZ under control

lunch

tion

formalities.

posed eight-team event

But the inexperienced CJKS has

reportedly remained oblivious of the

fact that such international tourna-

ment requires prior permission from

permission to launch a new interna-

tional football tournament. We have

received the tournament bye-laws

only four days back," said a BFF

member explaining the official

are presently pre-occupied with the

greatest show on earth -- the World

Cup now being held in Japan-Korea.

officials offered a different explana-

day to compile his 95 while Astle

came in with New Zealand in a spot

of bother on 82 for three after losing

two quick wickets immediately after

ent batting -- including an astonish-

ing 200 from 153 balls against

England earlier this year -- was

composed and cautious early in his

innings, but became more aggres-

sive as the day wore on, striking

spinner Mahendra Nagamootoo for

two straight sixes in one over after

New Zealand in to bat, as he did in

the first Test when the team was

comprehensively outplayed. It was

soon clear the wicket was not very

helpful to bowlers, although humid

for Collins in the afternoon session.

Openers Richardson and Lou

before Vincent was bowled by a

opener's inside edge before hitting

Hooper won the toss and put

Astle, well-known for his belliger-

But on the other hand CJKS

He also said that the AFC officials

"You need about 60 days for AFC

the ruling body of Asian football.

Cricket Opener Richardson batted all

AFP, St George's

West Indies pace bowler Pedro Collins fought back with two late w wickets on Friday to leave New Zealand on 208 for five at the close 0 0 of the first day of the second and final Test at the Queen's Park ground. New Zealand opener Mark

Richardson batted all day but then fell to a mis-timed pull when he was five runs short of his third Test century, caught by Chris Gayle on the boundary

R

48

49

50

46

31

Collins took three for 29 as he willingly took over the mantle of main strike bowler from the injured Merv Dillon Richardson and Nathan Astle put

on 123 for the fourth wicket as New

The late wickets kept alive the West Indies hopes of levelling the two-match series after they were beaten in the first Test in Barbados.

gambled on the Queen's Park

conditions meant there was swing Zealand cautiously re-built after struggling to 82 for three shortly Vincent put on 61 for the first wicket after lunch. sharp Cameron Cuffy delivery that jagged in from the off and caught the

West Indies captain Carl Hooper

wicket having some life in it early on but was proved wrong as the cautious New Zealanders placed themselves in a strong position to win the

the stumps. Vincent's 24, included one six. Richardson and captain Stephen Fleming saw New Zealand through to lunch but Fleming, scorer of 130 in the first Test, unwisely chased a

Mercy? No way!

ESPN

World Cup Today Repeat at 11:30 am Western Union World Football Repeat at 12:00 pm India vs Sri Lanka Third ODI Live at 3:45 pm

STAR Sports

World Cup Today Repeat at 7:30 am Gillette World Sports Special Int'l Sports News Taped Version at 8:00 pm World Cup Today Live at 8:30 pm



Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm July 5, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who scored the first goal of the World Cup 2002?		
Bouba Diop Zidane Klose		
2. Who is Brazil captain?		
Cafu Rivaldo		
Ronaldo		
3. Pakistan won the last ODI againstAustralia by		
91 runs		
9 wkts 17 runs		
4. Who will lead Bangladesh in the two-Test series against Sri		
Lanka? KMashud A Khan Alslam		
5. Who won the French Open- title?		
Name		
Class Roll No		
School Address		
Phone: (If any)		

World Cup qualifying last in September and their 1-0 loss to England in the 2000 European Championships.

Collina has a celebrity profile rivalling the world's top players and has been appearing in the Adidas World Cup advertising campaign alongside England star David Beckham.

He has his own website, www.pierluigicollina.com, which he uses to answer e-mailed questions on refereeing.

Collina combines his globetrotting career with part-time work as a financial consultant in his home town of Viareggio on Italy's Ligurian coast, where he lives with wife Gianna and his two daughters, Francesca and Carolina. The Italian has been moved by the trust placed in him.

"I have tried to keep my feet on the ground but it is very difficult at this moment. Even though I have refereed many big matches in the past, a World Cup final is totally different. "I'm very proud a small Italian

flag will be on the pitch in Yokohama on Sunday. I hope everyone from my country is very proud that some-one from Italy is 'playing' -- even though that is not the correct word -in this match. A World Cup final comes com-

With Ronaldinho back and Ballack

out, Brazil are an even stronger

favourite, but they know the

closely contested," Jacquet said.

"Germany-Brazil is a classic. They

are nations used to playing this

The fact the teams have not met

at the World Cup should lead to an

open game. But some of the players

face each other in club games in

Europe, so they're not exactly

final is something of a surprise. It

could have been South Korea vs.

Two powerhouse teams in the

Except against each other.

"I think that the final will be

Germans won't simply give up.

Football fantastic

plete with multi-million-dollar sponsorship of each team but Collina laughed off suggestions that his deal with Adidas would see him favour Germany against the Nikeclad Brazilians. He pointed out that all the refer-

ees got their kit from the manufacturer under a deal negotiated by

FROM PAGE 13

competition."

strangers.

Turkey.

seen as a tacit admission by FIFA that the refereeing of some matches here has been sub-standard.

Italy and Spain, who between them had three goals disallowed in their defeats by South Korea, both left the tournament alleging that a combination of incompetence and bias had put them out.

Like the players of Brazil and Germany, Collina hopes to have the best match of his life in Sunday final. But he knows there's no guaran-

"We try to do our best, absolutely we try to do our best," said Collina. "Sometimes it is not enough, but it is the same thing for players.

Collina and his assistants aced a barrage of questions Friday about what some consider the worst officiating in recent World Cup memory

Collina was polite and open. But he was curt when asked about disputed calls that may have sent Italy and Spain home early and prompted FIFA president Sepp Blatter to disparage some of the officiating

"You cannot possibly know what I am thinking, never," said Collina, replying to a leading question from a Spanish journalist who suggested he must have "felt quite a bit of pain" at seeing his home country -- Italy -exit on a disputed call

"I don't have anything else to say about this.'

Collina was mobbed as if he were a star player. Several young women asked for his autograph. Others sought snapshots with the shaven-headed man with the piercing stare.

has gualified" for the semifinals.

reached the semis. Both lost 1-0.

ever

last three.

Collina talked about studying the

match.

Comparing himself to the players, he called being involved in the match "unbelievable."

"We're very interested in the

tactics ... to be ready to read the

"I try to keep my feet on the ground, but it is very difficult. I have refereed a lot of matches in my career, but the World Cup final is something totally different from all the other things.

One person convinced Collina will do a good job on Sunday is Brazil coach Scolari. "He's a spectacular referee," Scolari said Friday. "Everybody likes him. He's not

good -- he's very good." Collina called on "referees and

players to trust each other. Because we are not enemies. We are doing the same thing in different ways. We are all doing our best to let the people ... enjoy the show the players produce "

But try as he did, the questions returned to missed or bad calls in the 2002 World Cup.

"Our job is not easy. It wasn't easy 20 years ago," he said. "It is not easy now, but something has changed in the last 20 years. ... Few cameras were on the field then. In this World Cup about 20 cameras work during a match. The difficulty of our job has increased a lot."

Collina said he would prepare for the game and then let history "make its judgement."

"I don't know if perfect refereeing exists," he said. "Referees are human beings and all humans make mistakes. When a player, when a referee has done everything to be ready, I think his conscience can be clear. Sometimes things don't go well.

Beware

FROM PAGE 13

exactly the same number of goals: There have been surprises here none. Athletic ability, fighting spirit, that make football football," Parreira self-belief and sheer physical selfsaid. "I don't think that soccer's been sacrifice can sometimes wipe away down because a surprising team the gap in experience and skill.

Eerie parallels with the past are Co-host South Korea became also starting to emerge from Brazil. the first Asian team to make it to the Victory celebrations are already being planned by millions of fans final four, and Turkey, not one of back in Rio, confidently expecting Europe's strongest teams, also Luiz Felipe Scolari's side to wrap up the World Cup on Sunday.

Co-host Japan, the United In 1950 it was a similar story. States, Senegal and Paraguay also Carnivals had already been organmade it to the second round, giving ised, victory speeches written and the newspaper front pages declarthis World Cup more surprises than ing 'Brazil: Champions of the World' already printed.

Brazil and Germany survived But Brazil, playing at home and them all and Sunday's game promneeding only a draw against Uruguay to lift the Jules Rimet ises quality soccer. But so did the Trophy, were beaten 2-1 to spark a This time, they won't disappoint. period of national mourning.

to his team clinching an unprecedented fifth World Cup title.

"The most important thing is that we win on a goal scored by anyone, whether it be by me or someone else." he said.

Ronaldo, 25, has a total of 10 goals in three World Cups, four shy of Germany's Gerd Muller, the tournament's all-time leading scorer

Seven players have had six goal performances at recent competitions, including Davor Suker of Croatia in 1998, Hristo Stoichkov of Bulgaria and Oleg Salenko of

Russia in 1994. Salvatore Schillaci of Italy in 1990. Gary Lineker of England in 1986, Paolo Rossi of Italy in 1982, and Mario Kempes of Argentina in 1978.

Brazil's Rivaldo and Germany's Miroslav Klose both trail Ronaldo in the chase for the Golden Boot with five goals apiece.

Onus on Kahn

FROM PAGE 13 face contorts into a grimace or he barks instructions at his defenders.

Off the field, the blond-mopped keeper is a modest figure, quick to play down the plaudits he has been showered with.

"It isn't just my doing that I have conceded only one goal," he said earlier this week. "The whole team is to be credited for that, especially the whole defence. Everyone has been playing really well. Their play has made things easier for me. depend on the performance of the whole team.

Kahn will take centre stage if the final ends in penalties, as happened in 1994, when Brazil beat Italy on spotkicks.

Kahn says if called upon he would be willing to take a spotkick himself - but doesn't see that as part of his job. In contrast, he would be out to stop the Brazilians doing to Germany what they did to the Italians.

"You have to prepare your mind and deal with this extreme situation." he notes.

But whether or not the two sides have to be separated in a shootout Kahn is confident he will pick up a winner's medal.

"I have a feeling we are going to be world champions. We are up against the best individual players in the world - but we too have world class players.'

one can match them for strength, pace, speed or skill."

Romario, hero of the victorious 1994 team, declared: "Ronaldinho had two great moments against the English.

"He changed the game with one run and pass to Rivaldo and scored a goal that will be remembered as a World Cup classic."

Bebeto, Romario's striking partner eight years ago, insisted: The attack we have now is probably stronger than in 1994.

"It's the speed, combined with the invention of Ronaldo and Ronaldinho that makes our team dangerous. It's a return to the attacking style of play Brazil has dropped over the last 10 years."

Brazil and Germany have never met in the 72-year history of the World Cup - and Carlos Alberto is convinced the European giants will not enjoy their brush with Brazilian magic

He added: "Like the Americans constantly produce natural basketball players, we create footballers who play like no one else in the world.

"It's in the blood. It comes from our culture. We call it 'Jeitinho', a piece of Brazilian magic that exists only in our culture."

The ex-captain has been a example to his country.

only Zico, Romario and Pelé, who still injured and not fully fit. But, as we saw against Turkey, he needs

scored 77. His World Cup tally is 10, two behind Pele only 30 seconds to finish a team off. Mario Jorge Lobo Zagallo, who "He's a normal, natural boy off guided Brazil to their 1970 and 1994 the pitch, who is basically shy. At the

triumphs, even reckons Ronaldo moment, though, he's very anxious to show he's one of the world's best. and Ronaldinho could soon be "Ronaldo has a tremendous linking up in club football. reputation but has never won any-Zagalo stated: "We'll see thing big. This is his chance - and he

Ronaldinho's career really explode after the World Cup. "He's mentally prepared for this "With his smile, his hair and his final. You can see it in his face.

Germans are dangerous, yet with

someone like Ronaldo in the team

Ronaldo has now scored 43

no one can hold us back."

natural ability to move past people, he'll quickly overtake players like Zinedine Zidane and Luis Figo.

"There is already talk of him moving to play with Ronaldo in Milan. The two are good friends and everyone knows Ronaldo needs company in Italy.

quick, creative and comes with a 'street attitude'. Like me, Ronaldo "He has been lonely there and Rivaldo, he learned to play Ronaldinho will provide great comfootball kicking a ball around with his panionship for him."

Yet, if Germany think that by shackling Ronaldo and Ronaldinho their troubles are over, they should listen to Brazil's 1994 skipper Dunga

He insisted: "If Holland had total football, we have 'anywhere' football. We don't use a midfield any more. The goals come from all over.'

Germany, watch out.

past

Delectably different

FROM PAGE 13

Their careers may differ starkly, but Scolari and Voller were united in adversity the last time they met, at the World Cup draw in Busan last December.

Scolari was under attack for turning the football artists of Brazil into a sterile, defensive unit that had struggled to qualify for the final.

Voller had everyone on his back after Germany were thumped 5-1 in Munich by England and needed a two-legged playoff against Ukraine to book their ticket to Asia.

In Busan, Scolari turned to Voller and said: "There is a rope around both of our necks.

Voller laughed, the pair hugged and shared aloud an optimistic thought

"I said, 'Maybe we'll meet again in the final," Scolari said this week. Voller has built his team up from the humiliation against England, depending on the German footballing values of teamwork and defensive brilliance allied with experience of winning close

matches with an occasional touch of brilliance from Michael Ballack added in.

The 53-year-old Scolari can be forgiven for laughing at his critics the loudest.

His defensive team which was supposedly killing all that Brazilians held dear has exploded into attacking life at the finals, scoring 16 goals in six matches, most of them laced with a touch of brilliance.

And the disciplinarian has pulled together a defence that looked eaky four weeks ago.

He has overseen the rehabilitation of centre forward Ronaldo like a loving father.

"I was never worried about Ronaldo," Scolari said after he had scored the decisive goal in the semi-final against Turkey, complete with an unusual half moon hairstyle. "When I saw him with that strange new haircut of his I knew that he would be ready to play in this match."

Voller, 42, meanwhile has doggedly batted away criticism of his

has disturbed me is so-called experts or former players coming out and saving Germany can only afford to lose to a group of eight or ten big footballing countries," he said.

team, said to be a pale imitation of

the great German teams of the

"Criticism has its place but what

"This kind of thinking belongs to the past. Teams like the United States or Senegal and the other African nations have made enormous progress. We can no longer just assume that we are going to beat them."

Neither team was supposed to reach the final.

Perhaps the two coaches will share a thought in the tunnel at Yokohama that as Argentina's winning coach in 1978, Cesar Luis Menotti. once said: "A coach is 60 percent responsible for a side's performance going into a match but once the game starts, it drops below 10 percent."