



### Did U Know?

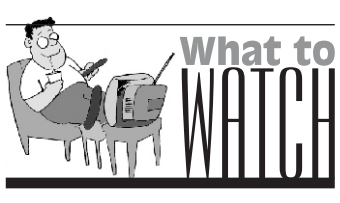
Athletics was an event at the first Special Olympics International Games held in Chicago, Illinois, USA in 1968.



### Talk Turkey



**Giovanni Trapattoni**  
(Italy soccer coach)  
*"France won the European Championship thanks to Platini who gave them the added value of a gifted midfielder. Totti is similar to Platini in that respect. Maybe Italy has never had anyone as strong and*



### What to Watch

TEN Sports	
Gillette World Sports Special	Int'l Sports News
Repeat at 9:00 am	Golden Moment of Olympic Games
Repeat at 11:00 am	Japan vs India
WC Football Qualifier	Repeat at 3:30 pm
ESPN	
Euro 2004	Preview Show
Live at 9:00 pm	Portugal vs Greece
First Round	Live at 9:55 pm
Euro 2004	Preview Show
Live at 12:00 am (Sunday)	Spain vs Russia
First Round	Live at 12:40 am (Sunday)
STAR Sports	
England vs New Zealand	Third Test, Day Three
Live at 3:30 pm	



### Star Whizz Kid COMPETITION 213

Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
**Competition closes at 8 pm**  
**June 25, 2004 and draw**

1. Who became man-of-the match in the second and final Test between Bangladesh and West Indies?	Sarwan	Bashar	Lara
2. How many Test matches has Michael Slater played?	74	82	75
3. What was the result of the WC-qualifier between Japan and India?	7-0	5-2	4-3
4. What is the name of the Euro 2004 ball?	Roteiro	Futi	Euroca
Name .....			
Class.....			
School Address .....			
Phone: (If any) .....			

**WHIZZ KID-212 winner**  
**Sobia Ameen**  
(Int'l School Dhaka)  
Please produce your ID card and an attested passport size photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sports Desk of The Daily Star at 7:30 pm on June 20.

# One-day Whatmore

 **Cricket**  
**SPORTS REPORTER**

Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore is looking forward to working with his boys only for one-day cricket in the next four months.

Since taking over as Bangladesh coach in June 2003, Whatmore always had to shuffle between both versions of the game.

"Yes, it's going to be interesting thinking only about one-dayers for the first time. I'll make a strategy after talking with the selectors," he said over telephone yesterday, a day after returning from Australia where he attended his brother-in-law's funeral. The 50-year-old Sri Lankan-born Australian had to leave the squad midway through the first Test against the West Indies.

In the next few months Bangladesh have a busy one-day schedule. They will fly to Sri Lanka fifteen days before the Asia Cup kicks off in Colombo on July 16. After that comes the ICC Champions Trophy in England in September.

With his boys returning home this morning after relatively

commendable maiden tour of the Caribbean, Whatmore was pleased.

"I'm very happy because everything was positive in the first Test. They fought all the way that's why I thought nothing could have been much better than this," said the delighted coach.

However he did not want to comment on the series-deciding second Test, which Habibul Bashar's men went down by an innings and 99 runs.

"I didn't see a single ball of that match. I can only comment once I watch the video. You should take into account of the pitch condition and circumstances before saying anything."

Many believe that had Whatmore been present, the scenario could have been different.

But Whatmore was quick to dismiss the notion.

"It's true that the team suffered an innings defeat after seven Tests but it would be unfair to think my presence could have brought a different result. No one can guarantee it. It can happen time to time," he added.

Talking about his next assignments, Whatmore believed he

had to do something to improve the top-order, which was constantly put under pressure by the West Indian quicks.

"Yes, we need to work with the top but I don't bother whether top order or lower order gets the runs," he said.

Whatmore also refused to admit that Bangladesh lacked big hitters, which was exposed during the one-day series against West Indies.

"Yes, our batsmen couldn't accelerate when it was needed but conditions in the three matches were not similar."

He also said that they need more time to develop a steady opening pair.

"I think Mohammad Ashraful can be a good choice as an one-day opener because he has a lot of potential."

When asked, Whatmore agreed that performance of Hannan Sarker was below par but he still thought that the right-handed opener could do better.

"I believe he will come back soon," he said.

In the meantime, the BCB selection committee will sit on Sunday or Monday to finalise a 14-member squad for the upcoming Asia Cup.

# Murali may not go down under

 **Cricket**  
**AFP, Colombo**

Sri Lankan spinner Muttiah Muralitharan is likely to boycott next month's tour of Australia in protest against Prime Minister John Howard's remarks that he was a 'chucker', cricket sources said Friday.

Muralitharan, with a record 527 Test wickets to his credit, is expected to formally inform Sri Lanka Cricket about his stance at the weekend, the sources said, adding indications were that he would opt out of the tour.

"The chances are that he is most likely to stay away (from the tour)," one source said.

The ace off-spinner was not immediately available for comment.

Sri Lanka are scheduled to play

two Tests in Australia in July.

Sri Lanka Cricket president Mohan de Silva said this week the cricket authority was encouraging Muralitharan to go to Australia.

De Silva said it would advise Muralitharan not to bowl his controversial 'doosra' in Australia as he ran the risk of being called for 'throwing'.

Sri Lanka has urged the International Cricket Council to change the rules in order to end the row over the bowler's 'doosra', a delivery which spins away from right-handers instead of coming into them like a normal off-break.

Muralitharan said in a statement last week that he had been defamed, pilloried and severely criticised by the world's cricket media.

"Even the prime minister of Australia has called me a chucker and then in the next sentence says I will be welcome to tour his country," he said.

## Ctg table tennis

**CU CORRESPONDENT**

Municipal Model High School emerged unbeaten champions in the CJKS-Aniruddha Barua Memorial School Table Tennis tournament at the CJKS gymnasium on Thursday.

In the boys singles (Under-17) Papon Baura of Municipal Model defeated Shoaibul Islam of Government Muslim High School 4-2 while Reagan beat Asiful Islam 4-3 in the other singles (Under-13).

In the boys doubles, Reagan and Papon pair defeated Shripankar and Avi 3-0. Earlier, Municipal Model High School also won their group final match.

## Ctg soccer

**CU CORRESPONDENT**

Mohammedan Sporting Club made a flying start in the CJKS-Elite Paint Premier Division Football League when the holders blanked Kallol Sangha 3-0 in the opening match at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

The local giants struck all the scores in the first half.



Euro 2004 mascot "Kinas" in action yesterday at the "Fan park" for football supporters.

# Portugal welcomes Europe



**AFP, Lisbon**

Portugal is all set to host the biggest sports spectacle in its history as the top 16 European teams packed with globally-known stars vie for continental supremacy in football in the Euro 2004 finals which begin Saturday.

For the next three weeks the focus of football fans across the globe will be on the eight Portuguese cities where the 31-match tournament, the third-biggest sporting event in terms of television audiences after the Olympics and the football World Cup, will be played.

"Portugal is living a highly significant moment," Portuguese Football Federation president

Gilberto Madail said Friday.

"Aside from those who are visiting us for the event, there are millions around the world who are absorbing information about Euro 2004. In terms of international projection we have already won."

More than 100 television stations have bought the rights to transmit tournament matches and the Portuguese government expects total viewership around the world for Euro 2004 games will reach more than eight billion people.

The government has gone all out to ensure that the tournament impresses.

Portugal, western Europe's poorest country, has built seven new stadiums and completely refurbished three others for the three-week Euro 2004 football finals at a cost of some 650 million euros (790 million dollars).

This is the biggest venue construction project ever carried out by a host nation of the European finals, which are held every four years.

Another four billion euros has been spent to build access roads to the stadiums, boost airport and rail capacity and modernise hospitals to prepare for the event.

More than 500 million euros alone was spent to build a new high speed rail link which nearly halves the travel time between Lisbon and the southern Algarve coast, one of Europe's biggest tourist destinations.

As the kick-off to the event nears, Euro 2004 fever has increased in Portugal, a football-mad nation of just over 10 million.

Taxi cabs began flying Portuguese flags from their windows over the past week and the red, green and yellow-coloured cloth is being hung from growing

numbers of windows, to the delight of the national team.

"The support of the public gives us greater confidence, it helps when we all row in the same direction," said Portugal defender Rui Jorge.

Enthusiasm for the event is also reflected in ticket sales. Football fans quickly snapped up some 80 tickets for the Euro 2004 opener between hosts Portugal and Greece which went on sale on Friday morning.

Officials say about 95 percent of the tournament's 1.2 million tickets have been sold so far, slightly more than the total number of tickets sold during the last European finals held jointly by Belgium and the Netherlands in 2000.

At least half a million football fans are expected to travel to

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

## PREVIEW: PORTUGAL v GREECE

# Scolari's task begins



**REUTERS, Oporto**

Luiz Felipe Scolari, who led Brazil to the 2002 World Cup, begins another bid to make history when his Portugal team play Greece in the opening match of Euro 2004 on Saturday.

Since the European Championship began in 1960, no country has lifted the Henri Delauney trophy managed by an overseas coach, which is exactly what Greece are also attempting to do, though German Otto Rehhagel's ambitions are, in reality, far more modest.

For millions of Portuguese, this represents the best chance they have had of winning a major tournament. Most Greeks will be happy if their team avoids humiliation and scores some goals, while winning a match would be a bonus.

The expectation on the hosts to start their Group A campaign with victory is enormous, but Scolari, who was under even greater pressure to bring the World Cup back to Brazil in 2002, is used to the demands of an expectant public.

He has tried to keep things in perspective recently and at least his chances of winning the opening match have been boosted by a clean bill of health for the squad.

Rui Costa is expected to start as playmaker in preference to Brazilian-born Deco, who might have to be content with a place on the substitutes' bench at the Estadio do Dragao, home of his European Cup-winning club side Porto.

Scolari has been credited with uniting the team behind the cause and led by example this week when he responded to speculation he had agreed to move to Benfica after the tournament by saying he would go anywhere except the club he was reported to be joining.

"Everyone is rowing in the same direction," said Portugal defender Rui Jorge. "When the example comes from the coach, then nobody can think differently."

Rehhagel also hopes to have a full-strength squad despite recent injury problems.

With leading striker Demis

**Live on ESPN at 9:55 pm.**

**PROBABLE TEAMS**  
**PORTUGAL** (4-4-2): 1-Ricardo; 2-Paulo Ferreira, 4-Jorge Andrade, 5-Fernando Couto, 3-Rui Jorge; 6-Costinha, 8-Armando Petit, 7-Luis Figo, 10-Rui Costa; 9-Pauleta, 11-Simao Sabrosa.  
**GREECE** (4-4-2): 1-Antonis Nikopolidis; 14-Takis Fyssas, 5-Traianos Dellas, 4-Nikos Dabizas, 2-Yourkas Seitaridis; 10-Vassilis Tsartas, 20-Giorgos Karagounis, 7-Theodoros Zagorakis, 8-Stelios Giannakopoulos; 11-Demis Nikolaidis, 9-Angelos Haristeas.  
Referee: Pierluigi Collina (Italy)

Nikolaidis on the road to recovery and towering defender Traianos Dellas eager to play despite a back injury, Rehhagel is expected to trust his usual 4-4-2 lineup.

Rehhagel, who used the same formation in a 1-1 friendly draw against Portugal last November, likes to adopt this system when the opposing team fields one striker.

With two strong men in central defence, Dellas and Nikos Dabizas, and fullbacks who enjoy the occasional run down the pitch, Rehhagel will hopes to set the game's tempo.

Playmaker Vassilis Tsartas on the left and Stelios Giannakopoulos on the right will be aiming to crack open the Portuguese defence and create opportunities for fast strikers Nikolaidis and Angelos Haristeas.

The hosts start as firm favourites and it would be a major shock if the opposing German coach achieved what his countrymen failed to do in the 2002 World Cup final and got the better of Scolari.

## SA to play 2 Tests in India

**AFP, Johannesburg**

South Africa will play two Test matches in India in November, the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCB) announced on Friday.

UCB chief Ray Mali met with his counterpart from the Board of Control for Cricket in India, Jagmohan Dalmiya, in Dubai on Thursday to discuss the tour, the SAPA news agency reported.

"It took about five minutes for us to sort out the tour. We have agreed to go to India from November 4 to 30 and we will play at least one warm-up match and two Test matches," SAPA quoted Malisaying.

The Indian cricket board will send a proposed itinerary with venues and dates for the UCB's consideration in the next few days, the news agency added.

India are due to host world champions Australia for four Test matches between October 1 and November 7, while South Africa host England from December 5.

That leaves less than a month to squeeze in South Africa's tour of India in November, not enough time to play the scheduled three Tests and seven one-dayers.

About the one-day matches, Mali said plans would be made to accommodate them next year.

"Our team is due to tour Australia next season and there is the possibility of playing the seven ODI's en route to Australia," he said.

The two countries have been unable to decide whether Tests or one-day internationals -- or both -- should be played during South Africa's tour of India in November.

India's cricket chief Jagmohan Dalmiya had earlier blamed the International Cricket Council (ICC) for an impasse over South Africa's tour, saying the 10-year Test calendar was a "blunder."

The UCB had expressed unhappiness over the itinerary submitted by India, saying the Indians were indifferent towards the tour.

But Dalmiya, a former ICC president, said the 10-year schedule drawn up for Test nations by the sport's world governing body was causing problems in drawing up the itinerary.



PHOTO: STAR

Young seamers wait at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday before reporting for the high performance pace bowling camp, which starts at the BKSP today.

# England recover

 **Cricket**  
**AFP, Nottingham**

England captain Michael Vaughan helped his side recover after New Zealand took two early wickets in the third Test at Trent Bridge here on Friday.

But at tea on the second day, England were 99 for two, still 285 runs behind New Zealand's first innings 384 which featured Scott Styris' 108.

Marcus Trescothick was 45 not out and Vaughan 44 not out, their unbroken stand of 81 in 101 balls reviving England after they slumped to 18 for two.

Chris Cairns, in his final Test before retirement, struck with his third ball to have Andrew Strauss edging to wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum for a duck to leave England at one for one in the second over.

But the injury problems that have plagued New Zealand on this tour resurfaced in the next over when, after five balls, Chris Martin limped off with what appeared to be a hamstring problem.

Left-arm swing bowler James Franklin, called up from English club side Blackburn for this match, completed the over.

And it was Franklin who struck next when he had Mark Butcher (five) edging an intended drive through to Styris at second slip.

England were then struggling at 18 for two in the seventh over.

Butcher had been batting with an injection in a chipped bone in his left little finger, the injury sustained while fielding earlier Friday.

Vaughan, aggressive throughout, pulled debutant fast bowler Kyle Mills' first ball in Test cricket for four.

Meanwhile Trescothick, who made 132 in the second Test, was carrying on from where he left off in Leeds with some blazing offside drives.

England needed just 18 balls after lunch to wrap up the New Zealand innings with Matthew Hoggard involved in all three dismissals as the tourists subsided

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



PHOTO: AFP

Greek Zisis Vryzas (R) vies for the ball with teammate Giorgos Seitaridis during a training session at Rio Ave stadium in Vila Do Conde on Thursday.