


Did U Know?
The defeat for Portugal was the fourth time that the hosts of a European Championship had lost their opening match but the first since the competition introduced a group phase in 1980.


TALK TURKEY



Bob Woolmer
(New Pakistan cricket coach)
"I know Javed Miandad is not a happy man at the moment but I would like his input. He would be very important in guiding me on


What to Watch

ESPN
Netherlands vs Czech Republic
First Round
Repeat at 5:15 pm
Euro 2004
Preview Show
Live at 12:00 am (Monday)
Portugal vs Spain
First Round
Live at 12:40 am (Monday)
Greece vs Russia
Same Day Delay at 3:00 am (Monday)


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	Bashir	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. Roll No.			
School Address			
Phone: (If any)			

Div II kabadi
UNB, Dhaka
Shaheed Mozzafar Hossain Smrity Sangsad emerged champions in the Second Division Kabadi League outplaying Maniknagar Unnayan Samity 34-18 with two lonas in the final at the Outer Stadium kabadi court yesterday.
The winners dominated the first half 16-8.
Two teams -- champions Shaheed Mozzafar Hossain Smrity Sangsad and runners up Maniknagar Unnayan Samity have earned the right to play the First Division League from the next season.
Director General of Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protisthan Brigadier General Mohammad Ali Mandal distributed prizes among the winners.

Why did Bashir die?

 **Cricket**
SPORTS REPORTER

Promising cricketer Tamim Bashir was laid to rest at the Goalkhali graveyard in Khalishpur, Khulna yesterday.
The 19-year-old died of cerebral malaria in Dhaka on Friday. It is hard to accept the loss as just another death.
Now all the dreams of Bashir's family have been torn to pieces and all that remains is guessing what could have been if the danger signs were noticed earlier by the Bangladesh Cricket Board's (BCB) high performance training unit.
It is alleged that the young man's illness at BKSP in Savar was ignored by the coaching staff.
Bashir, a left-arm spinner and a useful lower-order bat, last trained on June 9 with fever and complained about his physical wellbeing.
Bashir's father Farid Ahmed believes that his son's death is the result of indifference shown by the high performance unit.
"My son repeatedly told them

that he was not feeling well last Wednesday. But they ignored his pleas and told him to carry on training," cursed Farid while talking to the Daily Star Khulna correspondent after burying his son.
Although Bashir family sought answers, they got nothing in response from the cricket community as even his batch mates opted to remain silent.
There were however a few persons who tried to console the distraught family.
"It's a tragic loss and the circumstances under which he died is really pathetic. I sympathise with the family and his teammates," said Australian coach of the high performance unit McInnes.
McInnes also lamented that he was not aware of Bashir complaining to anybody about his illness during last week's training.
"I saw him batting, bowling and fielding on Wednesday (June 9). He looked normal to me. I only got to know about his sickness through his brother on Friday and I told him to stay away from any physical workouts before being recovered," McInnes said.
"If we had known we could have

referred him to a BKSP doctor. But by the time we realised Bashir was critically ill he was in hospital," said the Australian dismissing that any complaint had been made by the player.
But there are whisperings that Bashir complained that he was running a fever.
Ajmal Ahmed, the local physio of the team, told the Daily Star Sport that Bashir did indeed complain.
"Yes, he came to me on Wednesday before the training and said that he was not feeling well. But I can not treat any patient until I am told to do it by the in-charge. I told him to go to Justin Cordy. Whether he talked with Cordy or not I do not know because he never got back to me," said Ajmal.
When The Daily Star approached Cordy, the Australian fitness trainer of the national team, denied that Bashir ever talked to him.
"I was not aware of his illness. I saw him well on Tuesday (June 8). He might have been infected before coming to the camp but the symptoms perhaps developed after Tuesday," Cordy told over telephone.

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PHOTOS: REUTERS
SOCCER'S JACKIE CHAN! A combo picture shows (L) Sweden's Zlatan Ibrahimovic jumps up to score past Italy's goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon (behind Ibrahimovic) while (R) Christian Vieri (C) fails to stop the ball from entering the net during their Euro 2004 clash at Oporto on June 18.

Cloud over NFL

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president SA Sultan said this year's National Football League might be suspended due to unavailability of the Bangabandhu National Stadium.
The league is scheduled to start from June 25 across the country but sponsors Nitro-Tata have threatened to withdraw their support if BFF did not arrange matches in Dhaka.
"We are supposed to hold national league matches in Dhaka and Chittagong as agreed by the sponsors. But now they have threatened to cancel their support if we breach the contract," Sultan told reporters at the stadium yesterday.
He feared that the BFF would incur face huge financial losses if they staged the league without sponsorship.
"It is impossible for us to bear the total expenses of the league. And I know everybody will blame me if the league is postponed but I'll accept responsibility," said Sultan, who will meet State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman to discuss the issue.
"I don't know how long the most popular game will have to suffer. We are not ready to sacrifice the stadium. I will request the minister to allocate the stadium until September 5."

Big win for Dinajpur

UNB, Dhaka

Dinajpur, Rajshahi and Jessore advanced to the group semifinals of the 21st National Youth (Under-18) Hockey Championship eliminating their respective rivals at the Maulana Bhashani National Stadium yesterday.
Dinajpur overwhelmed Comilla 11-2 after leading the first half 4-1.
Rana Das netted five goals including a hattrick. Abu Sayeed three, Sadhan Lorence Das two
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Swedes' last gasp draw



REUTERS, Oporto

Sweden picked themselves up off the floor with Zlatan Ibrahimovic scoring an astonishing late equaliser to earn a 1-1 draw with Italy on Friday in one of the best matches played so far in Euro 2004.
Italy dominated the first hour and deservedly led with a 37th minute header from Antonio Cassano, standing in for key playmaker Francesco Totti -- suspended by UEFA for spitting at Denmark's Christian Poulsen in their opening Group C match.
But Italy gradually ran out of steam, took off their attackers and sat back to defend, but in doing so allowed a defiant, skilful and battling Swedish side into the match.
They did not waste the chance

and grabbed the point their inventive play merited with a remarkable goal by Ibrahimovic who hooked the ball into the top corner with his back to goal from close-range after a scramble in the area in the 85th minute.
"I scored a lucky goal but it was also an incredible goal, the most beautiful and important goal, especially at a European Championship," said Ibrahimovic.
Strike partner Henrik Larsson, who toiled all night to try to either score or create an equaliser, added: "It was a great goal Zlatan scored so we're very pleased with the result."
"It was very important and such a beautiful goal as well. He thoroughly deserved it, he's a great player."
The draw sets up a possible three-way tie at the top of the group, Sweden and Denmark both have four points and play each other in their final game in Porto next Tuesday.

If they draw they will both finish with five points, the same number Italy will have if they beat already-eliminated Bulgaria, as expected, in their final match in Guimaraes.
If that happens the determining factor will be the number of goals Sweden and Denmark get. If the Scandinavian rivals play out a high-scoring draw of 2-2 or more Italy will be out.
The Italians only have themselves to blame for allowing such a situation to develop.
They were outstanding against the Swedes for long periods, playing brilliantly in defence, midfield and attack, and should have been more than one goal ahead by the time Sweden equalised.
Their only real failure was in front of goal -- although Swedish goalkeeper Andreas Isaksson, who was on Juventus's books as a youngster, had an inspired match.
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PREVIEW PORTUGAL v SPAIN

They can't afford to lose



REUTERS, Lisbon

European Championship hosts Portugal will be knocked out at the first hurdle on Sunday unless they break with tradition and beat neighbours Spain for the first time in a competitive international.
Portugal, with three points from two games, must win to finish in the top two in Group A while Spain, with four points, need another point to avoid hoping Greece lose against Russia.
The likelihood of at least one of the Iberian pair going out of the tournament has added extra spice to the fixture.
LIVE ON ESPN AT 12.40 am (Monday)
Although Spain have won three

of the five competitive meetings and the other two have been drawn, Portugal's Brazilian coach Luiz Felipe Scolari is not bothered: "There's always a first time," he said.
Portugal last beat Spain in a
Live on ESPN at 12:40 am (Monday)
PROBABLE TEAMS
PORTUGAL (4-4-2): 1-Ricardo; 13-Miguel, 4-Jorge Andrade, 16-Ricardo Carvalho, 14-Nuno Valente; 8-Maniche, 6-Costinha, 7-Luis Figo, 20-Deco; 11-Simao Sabrosa, 9-Pauleta
SPAIN (4-4-2): 23-Iker Casillas; 5-Carles Puyol, 22-Juanito, 6-Ivan Helguera, 15-Raul Bravo; 19-Joaquin, 4-David Albelda, 8-Ruben Baraja, 14-Vicente; 10-Fernando Morientes, 7-Raul
Referee - Anders Frisk (Sweden)

friendly in Porto 23 years ago and they crashed to a 3-0 home defeat as recently as September.
"But this game will be different and we hope the outcome will be the opposite," said goalkeeper Ricardo.
Scolari, who led his own country to a fifth world crown two years ago, surprisingly left stalwarts Rui Costa and Fernando Couto out of his starting line-up against Russia on Wednesday but has not given anything away about his team for Sunday.
Spain have unhappy memories of recent games against host nations at major competitions, following controversial defeats by England at Euro 96 and South Korea at the 2002 World Cup.
The players say they have no concerns about the referee this time.
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Cricket taking its toll on Tendulkar

REUTERS, Bangalore

India's Sachin Tendulkar says the wear and tear of playing international cricket for over 15 years has started taking its toll on his body.
The 31-year-old batsman, regarded as among the world's best batsmen for most of his career, was overshadowed last season by the good form of teammates Rahul Dravid and Virender Sehwag.
"The back problem is such that every morning I wake up I don't feel the same. But I've learnt to deal with that," Tendulkar said on Friday during a fitness camp for next month's Asia Cup one-day tournament in Sri Lanka.
"After playing for 15 years there is going to be wear and tear. You just have to try and cope up with all these things."
But Tendulkar dismissed suggestions that his role in the team was diminishing.
"I never felt that (I had a bigger role than others). I always felt that this is the Indian team playing. There are 10 other players who are

very, very good, world class players."
Tendulkar said in the past two years he has had to work extra hard and innovate to outwit increasingly sharp opponents.
"It's not that I am the only one doing different things. The opposition has also been playing a different role."



SACHIN TENDULKAR

Vaughan for one team

 **Cricket**
AFP, London

England captain Michael Vaughan has called for the Test and one-day outfits to be united in the build-up to the triangular one-day series.
After the impressive whitewash of New Zealand in the three-Test series he is looking forward to taking on the Kiwis and West Indies in the shorter game from June 24 to July 10.
The modern model is to have specialist players for each format rather than picking the same teams for both the one-day and five-day game.
Vaughan said on Friday: "I would like to see the same squad in both. I feel if you can play well in one form of the game you can in another as well. That is how I feel cricket should be played."
"I would never discount the idea (of specialists). But I want people in the one-day squad who want to play in Tests as well."
"I always hope my game is good enough for both forms and I'd like others in the squad thinking the same."



MICHAEL VAUGHAN

Vaughan has been in charge of the England team for a year now having been appointed to the captaincy at the start of last season.
Yet strangely he was made skipper of the one-day side before the Test team despite not having been a regular in one-day internationals.
He took over the Test team a couple of weeks later when Nasser Hussain suddenly announced he would be stepping down.
Vaughan looked back with pride
on a year in which England won a Test series in the West Indies for the first time since 1968.
Then last Sunday they secured their first 3-0 victory in a three-Test series since 1978 when they beat New Zealand at Trent Bridge.
But he was aware that these are early days in his tenure, saying: "There are still things we need to work on and work out."
"I know I am by no means the finished article. I will still make my mistakes and I know I have a long way to go. But you get better and better the more you do it and the more experience d you become," he added.
Vaughan said the 1-0 defeat in Sri Lanka before Christmas was the only disappointment during a year in which England also had fight back twice to draw the home Test series against South Africa.
Two major components of England's success since the defeat in Sri Lanka had been the batting of Andrew Strauss and the bowling of Stephen Harmison.
Strauss's magnificent debut in the First Test against New Zealand at Lord's came when Vaughan was absent with a knee injury.
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PHOTO: AP
GOD BLESS US: Sri Lanka cricket captain Marvan Atapattu (C), along with his teammates, attends a prayer during a ceremony at the Sri Lanka Cricket office in Colombo prior to the team's departure for Australia yesterday.