

Did U Know?

Beach volleyball, a new addition to the Olympic Games in 1996, began as a fun activity at Santa Monica, California, in the 1920s. It developed into a competitive sport in the 1950s and 60s and really took off in the late 1970s after becoming professional.

TALK TURKEY



Goran Ivanisevic
(Croatian tennis star)
"Wimbledon is everything to me. My shoulder is fine and my goal is to pass the first week and after that, who cares?"

What to WATCH

ESPN
Euro 2004
France vs Switzerland
Repeat at 9:00 am
England vs Croatia
Repeat at 12:30 pm
Euro 2004
Preview Show
Live at 12:00 am (Wednesday)
Italy vs Bulgaria
First Round
Live at 12:40 am (Wednesday)
STAR Sports
Wimbledon Championships
First Round
Live at 5:00 pm
Euro 2004
Preview Show
Live at 12:30 am (Wednesday)
Denmark vs Sweden
First Round
Live at 12:40 am (Wednesday)

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			
School Address			
Phone: (If any)			

Rajshahi in semis

SPORTS REPORTER

Rajshahi edged past Dinajpur 3-2 yesterday to book a semifinal berth in the 21st National Youth Hockey Championship.

The winners led the first half 2-0 at the Maulana Bhashani National Hockey Stadium with Sabuj and Saqlain hitting the board.

Krishna made it 3-0 just after

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BCB clarifies today

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will make an official statement today on the tragic death of young cricketer Tamim Bashir.

Macky Dudhia, the Zimbabwean CEO of the BCB, told reporters yesterday that the Board spent much of Monday morning to find the facts after Bashir's family alleged negligence by the coaching staff of the high performance unit at the BKSP in Savar.

"Everyone was quite candid and open during discussions and we went through the whole matter. We will clarify our position with a statement," Dudhia said.

BCB president Ali Asghar also spoke for the first time since Bashir, a trainee of the Board's high performance unit, died of cerebral malaria on Friday.

"I've not heard about the findings yet. But if there is anything to investigate, we will do that. We will also make it public. Macky has also been given responsibility to handle

it," he said at the Hotel Sheraton.

The BCB boss informed that Dudhia had a detail discussion with Australian coach Richard McInnes, his compatriot trainer Justin Cordy, local coach Shahidul



TAMIM BASHIR

Alam Ratan and physio Ajmal Ahmed Mithu at the BCB's Gulshan office.

"Perhaps, Bashir's family also did not realise the magnitude of his

illness. He came from my constituency, and I could have done many things for him," the Khulna lawmaker added.

"Had I known earlier, I could've got him admitted to the CMH. Besides, we helped many cricketers in the past."

McInnes, who attended a milad mahfil organised by the Board at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the afternoon to pray for the departed soul, repeated that they (high performance unit) had nothing to do with Bashir's death.

"I don't think there is anything to investigate," the Australian said.

"I have heard that Bashir had complained to Ajmal on Wednesday (June 9) at 11 am about having a fever but the physio found that his temperature was normal."

"He (Ajmal) even told Bashir not to come to practice if he had a fever," McInnes said quoting Ajmal.

"Nobody informed me about this at the time," McInnes added.

Bashir's family earlier accused the coaching staff of the high performance unit of negligence following his death.

Inzy looks to Woolmer

Cricket

AGENCIES, Karachi

Pakistan captain Inzamam-ul-Haq says that new coach Bob Woolmer has the credentials to mould his talented but erratic side into a consistent winning outfit.

"Woolmer is someone who has proven himself in different capacities. He is a high profile coach with a result oriented background," Inzamam told Reuters on Monday.

Woolmer was appointed last week in place of Javed Miandad. The Englishman, who coached South Africa from 1994 to 1999, begins his new assignment next month, a few days before the start of the Asia Cup in Sri Lanka.

"I am hoping he will be able to mould our team into a consistent winning outfit," Inzamam said.

"I am sad at Javed Miandad having to go, because we had a good understanding. But it is a board decision and my job is to forge a good working relationship with him (Woolmer)."

Woolmer, 55, is the second foreign coach Pakistan has employed in the last five years following the

dismissal of South African Richard Pybus after Pakistan's first round elimination from last year's World Cup.

"Pybus was trying to establish himself as a coach of international repute with Pakistan. Woolmer is already established and I think this will help him in his assignment," added Inzamam.

The Pakistan captain also stated there would be no communication or cultural problems facing Woolmer.

"Our boys can communicate and understand with any foreigner. They are professionals and know in modern sports one has to work with foreigners," he said.

Meanwhile, in a further development, the Pakistan Cricket Board's (PCB) media manager, Samiul Hassan, has tendered his resignation.

Inzamam however has revealed that the PCB didn't take him into confidence in the matter of appointing a new coach. Speaking to the News, Inzamam stated he had no idea that Miandad would be replaced by Woolmer.

"Initially, I heard something about the Board trying for a foreign coach. But then later on I got the impression things were settled

between the Board and Miandad and he would continue," Inzamam told the daily newspaper. "I had no idea Woolmer was in line to take charge of the team."

Speaking about Miandad's tenure as coach, Inzamam said: "Javed was sincere as a coach. I didn't have any communication problems with him. We collectively tried to do what was best for the team. But it is a board decision and I have to go with it. Their decision obviously is based on future planning."

Looking forward to the Asia Cup training camp which begins on July 2, Inzamam stated that it would give him an opportunity to familiarise himself with Woolmer's training techniques. "I will get to know what his methods are to bring about improvements in the team. But I have not had any direct interaction with the man so far in my career."

Looking ahead to the challenges for the team, Inzamam pointed out that the most important task would be to inject more discipline and professionalism among the players.

"Hopefully Woolmer will be able to introduce both these things among our players to make them consistent performers."



ACC and BCB president Ali Asghar (L) and UNICEF Regional Director for South Asia Doctor Sadiq Rasheed shake hands after signing a MOU at Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

Flying Federer

WIMBLEDON

REUTERS, London

Roger Federer opened the defence of his Wimbledon crown in imperious style on Monday, sweeping aside Britain's Alex Bogdanovic 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 in the first round.

The Swiss top seed drew the sting out of all Bogdanovic's shots on an overcast Centre Court, hammering out his intentions in emphatic style.

"It was important to get off to a good start, and I did that," Federer said.

"I soon saw there was not much he could do on my serve."

"I relaxed, played well and am really looking forward to the next one."

Another former champion to advance was nine-time women's

winner Martina Navratilova. The 47-year-old naturalised American, making her first appearance in the women's singles at the All England Club for a decade, thrashed Colombia's Catalina Castano 6-0, 6-1.

Thirty-one years after her Wimbledon debut, Navratilova -- whose name loosely translates as "comeback" in her native Czech -- produced some vintage serve-volleying to bamboozle an opponent who, at 24, is almost half her age.

Navratilova, who lost in the first round of the French Open on her return to grand slam singles action last month, will play either Australian Jelena Dokic or Argentine Gisela Dulko -- her conqueror in Paris -- in the second round.

Goran Ivanisevic is due to make his first appearance at Wimbledon since winning the title in 2001 later on Monday.

The Croatian, who is to retire

from the sport after this tournament, had been prevented from defending that title by injury and missed last year for the same reason.

He faces dangerous Russian Mikhail Youzhny on Centre Court.

Australia's Lleyton Hewitt also advanced. The 2002 champion suffered a first round loss last year -- the first men's champion to lose so early since tennis turned professional in 1968.

He avoided a similar fate on court one with an assured 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 win over Austria's Juergen Melzer.

Women's second seed Anastasia Myskina of Russia is due on court later on Monday.

The newly crowned French Open champion takes on Lubomira Kurhajcova of Slovakia while third seed Venus Williams tackles Marie-Gayane Mikaelian of Switzerland.

India coming in December

UNB, Dhaka

India will play two Tests and three one-day internationals when they come to Bangladesh in December, president of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Ali Asghar told reporters yesterday.

Sourav Ganguly's men, who fly to Dhaka on December 13, are expected to start their maiden series with the Test matches. But the tour itinerary is expected to be finalised later.

According to the ICC calendar, India were earlier scheduled to tour Bangladesh last April. But it was cancelled due to their historic tour of Pakistan.

"The Indian board has assured us of sending a team on December 13. They will leave on January 12," the BCB president said.

Bangladesh played their inaugural Test against India in Dhaka in November 2000. They also visited Dhaka last April to feature in the TVS Cup tri-series that also featured South Africa.

NFL to start on schedule

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has decided to start the qualifying rounds of the Nitel-Tata 4th National Football League from June 25 as was earlier scheduled.

The BFF executive committee last night took the decision.

BFF deputy general secretary and NFL tournament committee secretary Manzoor Hossain Malu confirmed after the meeting that the six-team final round will be held in Dhaka.

"At the moment we are not sure whether the finals will be staged at the Bangabandhu National Stadium or the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Mirpur. But it is certain that it will be held in Dhaka as per the sponsor's demand," Malu said.

He also informed that Mymensingh and Chittagong have been chosen as venues for the first round of the final phase after Jessore.

The fourth venue will be either Pabna or Rangpur, he added.

ACC, UNICEF unite for girls education

BSS, Dhaka

Cricket will join forces with UNICEF to ensure education for millions of girl students in South Asia.

The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the United Nations body at a city hotel yesterday.

ACC chief executive Syed Ashraf Hui said afterwards: "Through cricket, we hope to encourage girls to attend school."

Welcoming the launch of the "Fair Play for Girls", UNICEF executive director Carol Bellamy said, "It has been proved time and again that if girls are denied the right to education then development suffers."

Dr Sadiq Rasheed, regional director for South Asia, UNICEF, Ali Asghar, the ACC president, Martin Dawes, UNICEF regional communication advisor and Dr Morten Giesing, UNICEF representative in Bangladesh, also spoke.

Viv quits as WI selector

REUTERS, London

Former captain Viv Richards has resigned as West Indies' chairman of selectors, the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) said on Sunday.

Richards is to join the BBC as a radio commentator for West Indies' tour of England.

The WICB has appointed an interim selection committee for two months, pending a review of the management structure of the West Indies team.

Former Test off-spinner Clyde Butts will join selectors Michael "Joey" Carew, who will serve as chairman of the interim committee, and former Test batsman Gordon Greenidge.

Richards scored 8,540 runs in 121 Tests, the second-highest by a West Indies batsman after current captain Brian Lara passed him last November against Zimbabwe.

PREVIEW ITALY v BULGARIA

Can't get hot now



REUTERS/AFP, Lisbon

Christian Vieri's rant at the Italian media on Sunday was misdirected.

Instead of telling Italian journalists he was more of a man than they would ever be, they might have been more impressed if he had told them he was a better mathematician.

That's because cool people with a head for figures will be needed on Tuesday night to determine whether or not Italy advance to the Euro 2004 quarter-finals following their Group C match with already eliminated Bulgaria in Guimaraes.

Italy will qualify for the last eight as long as they beat Bulgaria and Sweden and Denmark, who meet

in Porto, do not draw 2-2 or higher. Other scenarios are possible depending on how the two matches finish.

Italy's cause is not helped by suspensions to Francesco Totti, Gennaro Gattuso and skipper Fabio Cannavaro and on Monday coach Giovanni Trapattoni also faced an injury doubt over midfielder Cristiano Zanetti.

Zanetti, who played in the opening 0-0 draw with Denmark but did not feature in the 1-1 draw with Sweden on Friday, missed training on Sunday with a muscle problem.

Vieri, who marched out of Sunday's news conference following his protest at media coverage, did not join the in-house training match as he is suffering pain in his left knee.

Vieri worked out in the gym and had a massage. He is not believed to be at risk for the Bulgaria match



LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY! Italy striker Christian Vieri (L) listens to team manager Gigi Riva during a session training at the Restelo stadium in Lisbon on June 20.

Portugal on cloud nine



AFP, Lisbon

Thousands of chanting Portugal fans jammed central squares across the country on Sunday after the host nation reached the Euro 2004 quarter-finals with a 1-0 win over neighbours Spain.

Shortly after the final whistle, drivers began hooting car horns in Lisbon as their passengers waved the red and green national flag from car windows.

Fans opened bottles of champagne, chanted "Portugal! Portugal!" and danced in the middle of the streets as others banged pots and pans from apartment windows.

"This is marvellous, this is one of the best days of my life," said 24-year-old Ricardo, one of 12,500 fans who watched the game on two large-screen televisions at a riverside "Fan Park" in Lisbon which filled to capacity three hours before the game began.

Spain only needed to draw with its Iberian neighbor to get through

to the next stage of the European finals while

Portugal needed to beat the Spanish to advance.

Street parties were reported from north to south, with thousands crowding the port area of second-city Oporto, in a replay of the festivities which swept the city last month following FC Porto's 3-0 win over Monaco in the Champions League final.

Fireworks were set off in the southern town of Portalegre near the Spanish border, while hundreds of fans blasted their horns as they drove around Funchal, the capital of Portugal's Madeira island which is located off the coast of Morocco, national news agency Lusa reported.

In the central town of Vilar Formoso, a caravan of over one hundred honking cars crossed over to the neighbouring Spanish town of Fuentes de Onoro to celebrate, it added.

"We deserved to win, we completely dominated the match from the beginning," said student Hugo Soares after Portugal earned their first ever win over Spain in a competitive match.

Trams in the historic centre of

Live on ESPN at 12:40 am (Wednesday)

PROBABLE TEAMS

ITALY (4-3-3): 1-Gianluigi Buffon; 2-Christian Panucci, 13-Alessandro Nesta, 23-Marco Materazzi (or 6-Matteo Ferrari), 19-Gianluca Zambrotta; 14-Stefano Fiore (or 16-Mauro Camoranesi), 21-Andrea Pirlo, 20-Simone Perrotta; 18-Antonio Cassano, 7-Alessandro Del Piero, 9-Christian Vieri.

BULGARIA: (4-4-2): 1-Zdravko Zdravkov; 2-Vladimir Ivanov, 18-Predrag Pazhin, 5-Zlatimir Zagoric, 22-Ilian Stoyanov; 13-Georgi Peev, 8-Milen Petkov, 15-Marian Hristov, 17-Martin Petrov; 21-Zoran Jankovic, 9-Dimitar Berbatov.

Referee: Valentin Ivanov (Russia)
Linesmen: Yury Dupanau (Belarus), Vladimir Eniutin (Russia)
Fourth official: Alain Hamer (Luxembourg)

that Italy must win to have a chance of reaching the quarter-finals.

Matteo Ferrari and Marco Materazzi are the two main options to replace Cannavaro in the centre of defence, while Gattuso's slot in midfield could go to Stefano Fiore or Mauro Camoranesi.

The build-up to Tuesday's crunch matches has been overshadowed by suggestions that the Swedes and the Danes might have shaken hands on their result and the Italians want the match closely monitored.

Italy are unhappy with the way Danish television cameras tracked Totti for the whole 90 minutes of their opening game against Denmark and caught him spitting in the face of defender Christian Poulsen.

The pictures were used as evidence against Totti and subsequently led to the Roma captain receiving a three-match ban from UEFA. Totti will only return to action if Italy get to the semi-finals.

"I would like to see 50 television
SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



PORTUGUESE PARTY: Portuguese fans celebrate their team's victory at Rossio square in Lisbon on June 20.