



Did U Know?

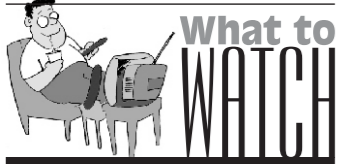
Ethiopian marathoner Abebe Bikila was the first man to successfully defend the marathon title (1960 and 1964). He only wore shoes for the second victory.



Michael Vaughan

(England cricket captain)
"It [the Caribbean] is an incredible place and, whatever people say, will be a fantastic venue for the World Cup. So what if a plane's a bit late and you hang around an airport for a few hours or the PA system at the ground is up the spout?"

Supporting the decision to stage the 2007 World Cup in West Indies.



- ESPN**
Sportscentre
Live at 7:00 pm
England vs New Zealand
NatWest Series, First ODI
Live at 7:30 pm
- STAR Sports**
Sportsline
Live at 4:30 pm
Wimbledon Championships
Live at 4:30 pm
Euro 2004
Preview Show
Live at 12:00 am (Friday)
Portugal vs England
Quarterfinal
Live at 12:40 am (Friday)

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

- Who became man-of-the-match in the second and final Test between Bangladesh and West Indies?
Sarwan Bashir Lara
- How many Test matches has Michael Slater played?
74 82 75
- What was the result of the WC-qualifier between Japan and India?
7-0 5-2 4-3
- What is the name of the Euro 2004 ball?
Roteiro Futi Euroca

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)

Flintoff out

AFP, London

England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff is out of the entire one-day international series with New Zealand and West Indies with an ankle injury.

The 26-year-old saw a specialist surgeon on Tuesday where a small bone growth in his left ankle was found.

He has been told to rest for two weeks and England have decided not to risk him for the triangular series.

Don't box Tapash!

SPORTS REPORTER

Pace bowler Tapash Baisya had a wrong bout with his partner Tareq Aziz Khan during a boxing session at the Bangladesh Kriya Shikha Proishthan (BKSP) on Sunday which caused dislocation of his left shoulder.

But the 21-year old strike bowler is not in serious danger ahead of next month's Asia Cup in Sri Lanka.

"I am feeling better now and took part in the running and swimming sessions today. I am hopeful to bowl within a couple of days," Tapash told The Daily Star Sport over phone yesterday.

Bangladesh team trainer Justin Cordy also confirmed that Tapash's injury was nothing serious.

"We are hopeful that he will recover soon. There was nothing wrong in the X-ray report," said the young Australian, who was recently promoted to the national side from Under-19 squad.

Meanwhile, the Sri Lanka-bound Bangladesh cricket team will take part in a physical training session at the Bangladesh Army Stadium today

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BNS officially football's

SPORTS REPORTER

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman has requested every sports lover not to smell any rat behind handing over the Bangabandhu National Stadium back to football and other sports.

The minister said that the permanent solution to the long-running dispute over the possession of the premier venue of the country came following a cordial understanding between the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

Although the decision had been made public by the ecstatic BFF officials a day earlier, the sports boss yesterday made the official announcement at a press briefing at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room.

The settlement means cricket will no more be played at the number one national stadium from next

March and the BFF will get the venue almost exclusively. Athletics and national programmes will also take place at the big bowl.

Rahman informed that he was looking forward to stage an international football event to make the return of football to its most favourite ground memorable.

"I believe that football desperately needs government support because they lack fund to run the show smoothly. We will try our best to help them," said Rahman.

"The MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong will also be used for football once we make a modern press box at the new Divisional Stadium in the port city as per the demand of BCB. I am hopeful that I'll be able to fulfill this demand by next year."

He also informed that cricket and football offices would be shifted from the BNS after March 2005.

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Qamar set to join on Aug 1

SPORTS REPORTER

Former Pakistan international Qamar Ibrahim is expected to take charge as coaching director of Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) from August 1.

Qamar, who arrived in Dhaka on Tuesday, had successful talks with sports bosses yesterday and reportedly reached a verbal agreement with the BHF.

BHF general secretary Shamsul Bari told reporters that Qamar, who returns to Pakistan today, would come back at the end of July.

"He has accepted our offer of 2,000 dollars per month. We will provide accommodation and transport in addition," Bari said.

"All is settled, but we will finalise his contract after a meeting with Dutch-Bangla Bank on June 27," Bari added.

The Dutch-Bangla Bank had earlier made a promise to help the BHF financially.

Bari informed that Qamar would work as a part-timer and he had asked for a permanent helping hand.

"He will be visiting Pakistan for short periods to look after his business and other commitments. He will stay in Bangladesh for at least two months each time. We have no problem with that," the BHF secretary explained adding that after reaching Pakistan, Qamar would send a development plan.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman, who had a meeting with Qamar yesterday, assured the BHF that he would provide fund for any development programme in the future.

Double treble for Rony

SPORTS REPORTER

Rony Das scored six goals as Siraj Smriti Sangsad humiliated Magbazar Sabuj Sangha 14-0 in a north zone match of the Pioneer Football League at the Kamapur Stadium yesterday.

Shipon netted three, Rashedul two while Rahman, Sohel and Quayum one each for the winners.

At the same venue, Kalachandpur XI and Modhubagh Friends Club failed to break the deadlock.

In west zone, Haji Jumman SS thrashed Arambagh KS Juniors 5-0 with Alam, Torun, Danish, Samrat and Sumon finding the mark at the Dhanmondi Club ground. KR Boys got walkover against Paltan SC in another match.

Friends Society Welfare and Mirza Boys shared a goalless draw while Samaj Kalyan Mugda blanked Murapara KC 3-0 in central zone matches at Basabo ground. Mahfuz scored twice and Amin netted the other for the Mugda outfit.

Masud, Sohel and Jasim slotted one goal each in Islampur Uttarani's 3-0 win over Monsur Sporting Club in east zone at the Dhupkhola ground. Shaown struck the all important goal in Narayanjan Football Academy's solitary goal victory against Agha Sadek Road SC.

Ctg football

CU CORRESPONDENT

Regency Sports Club beat Satadal Club 1-0 in the CJKS-Elite Paint Premier Division Football League at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Regency earned six points from four matches. Satadal, however, earned only one point.

Mojeq O Oria, a Kenyan recruit for Regency, netted the all-important goal in the 41st minute of the first half.

Chittagong Abahani will take on Kallal Sangha today.

BCB names U-19 squad

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) retained most of the members of its ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup squad for next month's tour of England.

The BCB named four new faces in the 15-member U-19 squad which starts its seven-week England tour from July 17. They are Shamsur Rahman Shuvo, talented 16-year-old wicketkeeper Mushfiqur Rahman, Ashim Chowdhury and Ishraq Sonnet.

The tour details have yet to be finalised but the Tigers are expected to play both longer and shorter version matches.

Richard McInnes and Nazmul Abedeen Fahim were named coach and assistant coach respectively.

QTR PREVIEW PORTUGAL v ENGLAND

Wonderkids carry the flags



REUTERS, Lisbon

Rooney or Ronaldo, which of the teenage tyros will still be making the headlines after England face Portugal in the first Euro 2004 quarter-final on Thursday?

Rooney -- 18-year-old Wayne -- blasted England into the last eight with four goals and an all-round forward display that has had some of the world's top coaches drooling and some of the best defenders trembling.

Ronaldo -- 19-year-old Cristiano -- has been instrumental in lifting Portugal from the despair of their opening game defeat as his incomparable skill and sheer zest for the game has helped spark a belief that has swept across the host nation.

The two youngsters will be at

the centre of attention on what should be a wonderful occasion at the Luz Stadium but there is so much more to savour in this intriguing clash.

Both teams are buzzing, riding the crest of a wave after recovering spectacularly from losing starts.

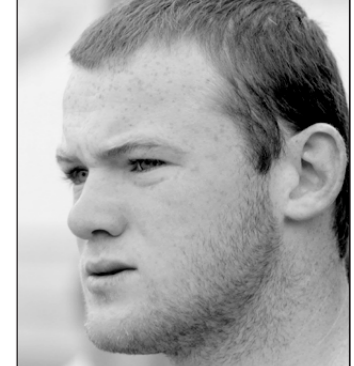
Two days into the tournament it was gloom and doom after the host nation fluffed their lines by losing 2-1 to Greece and England threw away a 1-0 lead in the last three minutes to go down by the same score to champions France.

Both sides then followed the same winning route to recovery. Portugal got back on track with a nervy 2-0 victory over Russia, England doing the same with a more comfortable 3-0 success over Switzerland.

Portugal then sparked national celebrations by beating Spain for the first time in 23 years, their 1-0 victory catapulting them to the top of Group A.

England followed suit with their

best tournament performance since beating the Netherlands 4-1 at Wembley in Euro 96, their 4-2 comeback win over Croatia spark-



LION KING! ...Wayne Rooney

Live on STAR Sports at 12:40 am (Friday)

PROBABLE TEAMS

Portugal (4-4-2) - 1-Ricardo; 13-Miguel, 16-Ricardo Carvalho, 4-Jorge Andrade, 14-Nuno Valente; 6-Costinha, 18-Maniche (or 8-Armando Petit), 7-Luis Figo, 20-Deco; 17-Cristiano Ronaldo, 21-Nuno Gomes.

England (4-4-2) - 1-David James; 2-Gary Neville, 5-John Terry, 6-Sol Campbell, 3-Ashley Cole; 7-David Beckham, 11-Frank Lampard, 4-Steven Gerrard, 8-Paul Scholes; 9-Wayne Rooney, 10-Michael Owen.



PHOTO: AFP

THE DIFFERENCE IS THIS MUCH! Portuguese coach Luiz Felipe Scolari gestures during a press conference at the Academia Sporting, near Lisbon yesterday.

Azzurri drown in blues



REUTERS, Guimaraes

Italy's players looked utterly insoluble after crashing out of Euro 2004 on a gloomy, rainswept night in northern Portugal on Tuesday despite a 2-1 win over Bulgaria in their final Group C match.

Antonio Cassano's winner four minutes into stoppage time sent the players and their bench into wild celebration which was cut short almost immediately as news filtered through that Sweden and Denmark had drawn 2-2 in the other match -- a result which meant Italy were out.

Before the match much Italian media speculation focused on Denmark and Sweden playing for a high-scoring draw that would take both countries into the quarter-finals.

However, the two coaches and players from both Scandinavian teams had laughed off suggestions of a fix.

Italian coach Giovanni

Trapattoni said his team was going home with their pride intact -- but the feeling remains that Italy have under-achieved.

"We leave with our heads held high, especially because we deserved to win the previous match against Sweden," he said afterwards.

He also complained about Russian referee Valentin Ivanov, saying: "We conceded a penalty, but I saw at least a couple of fouls that could have given us the chance to equalise."

One of those was certainly the 76th minute foul on Cassano, named Man of the Match despite a somewhat greedy performance in attack. TV replays showed he was tripped by Bulgarian substitute Kiril Kotev and Italy should have been awarded a penalty.

Nevertheless, the Bulgarians had proved remarkably stubborn opponents for Italy, one of the pre-tournament favourites and runners-up to France in the final four years ago.

Bulgaria, already eliminated and with a goal record of 0-7 following defeats to Sweden and Denmark, stunned the Italians by taking the lead after 45 minutes

when Petrov scored with a penalty after Marco Materazzi pulled Dimitar Berbatov's shirt.

Italy equalised three minutes into the second half when Simone Perrotta hooked in from close range after the Bulgarians failed to clear their lines.

But despite dominating the second half, Italy failed to take the chances that might have taken them into the last eight.

Cassano's winner was too little, too late, and moments after scoring he kicked at a water-bottle in frustration and just crouched on the wing without moving when Bulgaria restarted the match for the last few seconds of playing time after his goal.

Italy paid a high price for dropping two points in their 1-1 draw with Sweden last Friday after playing some of the best football seen in the tournament for the first hour of the game.

Sweden's late equaliser in that match and results in other games in the group meant that Sweden and Denmark would both advance if they drew 2-2 or better in their final match.

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PHOTO: AFP

TALK OF THE TOWN: A Pakistani reads a daily newspaper featuring the news of Imran Khan and Jemima's divorce on its front page at a stall in Islamabad yesterday.

Clash of culture loses

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

The match between flamboyant Pakistani cricket legend Imran Khan and British heiress Jemima failed to cross a cultural divide, Imran's former colleagues said Wednesday, shedding light on their breakup.

"To me it was a mis-match and a match which was a clash of culture," veteran cricket commentator and columnist Omar Kureishi told AFP.

"I think Jemima was never happy living in Pakistan while Imran is a man of principle who would do everything but not bargain on his principles," said Kureishi, also a personal friend of Imran.

Charismatic Imran, who played 82 Tests for Pakistan, held captaincy in 48 matches and led the country to the World Cup glory in Australia in 1992, announced the split on Tuesday, calling it an amicable decision.

The break up comes nine years after Imran, a heart throb to millions of female fans, hit the headlines with his May 1995 marriage to Jemima, the daughter of multimillionaire British businessman

James Goldsmith. But unlike his 21-year cricket carrier from 1971-92, Imran's matrimonial innings was short and turbulent, despite the arrival of two sons.

"Like every cricket fan, I am sorry to hear the news," Kureishi said.

"But since Imran is known as a man of strong opinion and resolve, this had to happen after he joined full time politics and was not spending time with Jemima."

Kureishi believed Imran's entry into politics was not a good move for his relationship, although a Pakistani wife would have been able to accommodate his ambitions.

"Had there been a Pakistani girl she would have given all for Imran's political career."

Former wicketkeeper and colleague Wasim Bari said he respected the way the couple separated.

"Like good, mature and educated people they decided to part ways rather than making it a public fight," said Bari.

he thought it is wiser for him and Jemima to separate," said Abbas.

Pakistani politician Raza Rabbani did not believe that Imran sacrificed his family personal life for politics.

"I think there is more to it than sacrificing personal life for politics, but it's their personal decision," he said.

Journalist Sehar Ali, who interviewed the couple on their personal life, feels it was difference of age besides clash of cultures.

"Yes, it was a clash of culture but age difference with Imran in his 50s and Jemima just 30 was another cause," she said.

"I think Jemima tried her best and nine years is an ample proof of it, she gave up her religion, life in England and learnt Urdu so you can't blame her for not trying."

"A Pakistani woman would have been different but every wife wants her husband spending time with her," Ali added.

Imran, who comes from a prominent family of ethnic Pashtuns was an Oxford University graduate in politics, philosophy and economics.

The couple's close friends said she found it hard to adapt to the local culture and remained uncomfortable in the conservative surroundings.

Rain strikes Wimbledon

BBC ONLINE, London

Spectators at Wimbledon are enduring another day of delays because of prolonged rain.

There has been no play so far, and is unlikely to be until at least 1630 GMT.

A number of matches have already been cancelled including those involving Martina Navratilova, Venus Williams, Roger Federer and Goran Ivanisevic.

Officials are hopeful that Andy Roddick and Guillermo Coria will complete matches, and that Greg Rusedski will begin against Davide Sanguinetti.

Delays on the first two days of the Championships have left organisers 45 matches behind the schedule.

Should the bad weather continue, options open to the referee's office are to start play earlier or use the middle Sunday, although that decision is some way off.

In Wednesday's remaining scheduled matches, Roddick leads Taipei qualifier Yeu-Tzuoo 4-2 and Coria's match against Wesley Moodie goes into a third day, with the Argentine third seed 5-3 up in the final set.



PHOTO: REUTERS

BEYOND CONSOLE: A distraught Antonio Casano is comforted by teammate Gianluca Zambrotta after their match against Bulgaria at the Afonso Henriques stadium in Guimaraes on June 22.