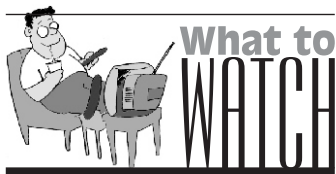




**Did U Know?**  
Zinedine Zidane and Lilian Thuram have broken the all-time record for most appearances in European Championship matches. They were taking part in their 14th European Championship finals match.



**ESPN**  
Euro Quarterfinal  
Czech Republic vs Denmark  
Repeat at 1:30 pm  
**Sportscentre**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm  
**STAR Sports**  
Wimbledon Championships  
Live at 5:00 pm

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 214**  
Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
**Competition closes at 8 pm**  
**July 9, 2004 and draw**

1. How many Test matches will India play against Bangladesh in December?	Three	Two	Four
2. Who is Pakistan's new cricket coach?	Miandad	Woolme	Marsh
3. Who won the Rating chess title?	Rajib	Rakib	Reefat
4. Who is the youngest scorer at UEFA Euro 2004?	Rooney	Vonlanthen	Ronaldo

Name .....
Class .....
School Address .....
Phone: (If any) .....



**Otto Rehhagel**  
(Greece soccer coach)  
"I want to congratulate my players for this unbelievable victory which

## Pioneer soccer

SPORTS REPORTER

Mahanagar Krira Chakra outplayed Majed-Babul Smriti Sangsad 6-1 in a south zone match of the Shinepur Ceramics Pioneer Football League at the Mirpur outer stadium yesterday.

The other match in the same zone between Agrani KSKS and Prashanna Poddar Lane SKP ended in a 1-1 draw.

Following are the results of the day's other matches:

**West zone (Dhanmondi Club ground):**  
KR Boy's-5, Noor SC-1  
**East zone (Dhupkhola ground):**  
Mansoor SC-3, Titu SS-2  
Narayanjanj FA- 2, Pally Unnayan-0  
**Central zone (Basabo Torun Sangha ground):**  
Mejba Boy's Club-2, Samaj Kalyan & Krira Sangsad-1  
Friends SWO-2, Nandipara KKS-0

## Fitter, trimmer Tigers



SPORTS REPORTER

Coach Dav Whatmore seems satisfied with the amount of work done to improve his players' physical fitness before the Asia Cup in Sri Lanka next month.

Seasonal rains may have hampered the Tigers during their camp, but the team's think-tank was still able to work on their fitness levels.

"Fitness is becoming more and more important. Our focus was on just that during the small window of time we got for preparation," said Whatmore while talking to reporters after the official photo session at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

He was impressed by the techniques introduced by new team trainer Justin Cordy and said the squad had responded enthusiastically to them.

Whatmore's efforts to get his Sri

Lanka-bound men into shape, who leave tomorrow for the six-nation regional event beginning on July 16, appears to have been successful as all the cricketers looked slimmer as they have shed a few kilos during the camp mainly held at the BKSP from June 16.

"To achieve maximum results, we focussed on conditioning. We will do the skill part of it in Sri Lanka," said the 50-year-old former Sri Lanka coach ahead of Bangladesh's first tour of the island under him.

Besides, he is relieved that there are no injuries as striker bowler Tapash Baisya managed to give 80 per cent effort on Saturday. The paceman was given rest during yesterday's nets after attending the gym.

After just over one year in charge, Whatmore feels the main weakness the team has is in its mental approach.

"We have been improving after winning one match and running

our opponents close on a few occasions. The players have the skill, ability and the tendency to work hard. All they have to do is translate these into a winning habit. I think they are a bit behind in the mental thing and it must come from the head," he opined.

Undaunted by the team's poor fielding show in the Caribbean, Whatmore commented, "No one wants to see them drop catches. But it is a certain area which can be turned in one match. It can happen in Sri Lanka."

He however, was more concerned about the team's batting performance.

"We have to score 250-270 runs. It can come from the top-order or the lower order. But certainly, I would love to see the upper-order do it regularly."

With the prospect of Asia Cup matches being rain-affected, Whatmore said he could use Mohammad Rafique as a pinch-

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



PHOTO: STAR

The Asia Cup-bound Bangladesh cricket team members pose during an official photo session at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Police edge BDR

SPORTS REPORTER



STADIUM YESTERDAY.

Jahangir was the hero of the battle firing in the winner in the 17th minute, helping Police set a zonal semifinal clash against giants Bangladesh Army tomorrow at the same venue.

Pratyasha Club of Jessore registered the biggest victory of the day when they blanked Nazrul Smriti Sangha 4-0 at the Bagerhat Stadium. They will take on home side Unmochan Club tomorrow.

Lucky opened the goalgate with a 14th minute strike and added another in the 76th minute. Khurshid and Shahin increased the margin after the break.

At Chandpur, Rising Star of Noakhali eliminated Agrabad Naojowan Club of Chittagong 2-1 to set a zonal semifinal against hosts Najirpara Krira Chakra of Chandpur tomorrow.

Kiron and Sharif scored for the winners while Moloy Barman reduced the margin.

At the Narshingdhi Stadium, striker Jalaluddin struck twice to give Kacharipara Football Club of Jamalpur a 2-1 victory against Court Road Sporting Club of Kishoreganj. The winners will play Shuktara Jubo Sangha of Narayanganj in the zonal semifinal, also tomorrow.

After a barren first half, Jalal found the net in the 68 and 82 minutes while Pulton scored the consolation goal for Kacharipara in the 83rd minute.

At Jhenidah, an 82nd minute strike by Anwar enabled Zia Smriti Sangsad of Magura to beat Crescent Club of Kushtia 1-0. They will face Jhenidah Mohammedan Sporting Club in tomorrow's zonal semifinal.

The day's other match at the Natore Stadium was settled in tiebreaker with Kurigram Kheladhula Sangha beating Shaheed Zia Sporting Club of Nilphamari 4-3.

The regulation time ended 1-1 with Enamul scoring for the Kurigram league champions and Mukdes Ali for the losers.

They will take on Panchagarh Brothers Union in the zonal semifinal on Wednesday.

## ICC ponders Super Series

CRICINFO, undated

The International Cricket Council (ICC) plans to organise a unique Super Series between the team heading the ICC Championship table and a World XI.

The series, which will include a Test and three one-dayers, is likely to be hosted by either India or South Africa.

The decision on the host and the time of the series will be decided in the five-day general body meeting of the ICC, beginning in London on Sunday. The Super Series will mostly be held at the end of the year and in all probability, will see Australia taking on the stars from the Rest of the World.

The other issue that will be discussed in the meeting is the crisis in Zimbabwe, whose future in Test cricket hangs in the balance, with many foreign teams being very reluctant to tour.

The shifting of the ICC headquarters from London, the allocation of venues for the 2007 World Cup in West Indies, and the appointment of a vice-president will also be part of the agenda.

## SL off to winning start



AFP, Darwin

Sri Lanka cruised to a five-wicket victory in the opening match of their Australian cricket tour at Marrara Oval here on Sunday.

Set a target of 187 runs to win on the final day of the four-day match, the Sri Lankans resumed at six for one and reached 187 for five.

Tillakaratne Dilshan was the best of the Sri Lankan batsmen, finishing unbeaten on 66.

Local cricketer Ian Redpath was the stand-out bowler in the home side, picking up 2-22 off seven overs.

Glenn McGrath declared himself "ready to go" after his final hit out before the first Test against Sri Lanka, starting here on Thursday.

McGrath went into the tour match under pressure from the selectors to show some form after a slow return from ankle surgery.

The 34-year-old veteran of 95 Tests and 430 Test wickets managed just one wicket in each innings on a slow pitch.

But it was the rhythm he found in his 1-25 off 14 overs in the sec-

ond innings that delighted McGrath ahead of the first Test.

"I'm a lot more confident now than what I was before this match here," McGrath said.

"That's the best my ankle has felt and the best I've hit the crease for the last two and a half years and to me that was the secret to me bowling well."

"My confidence is, yesterday morning compared to now, it's 500 per cent better."

"I'm so much more confident and couldn't be happier at the moment."

McGrath finished with 1-62 off 24 overs in the first innings.

Test opener Justin Langer, who also had a hit out for the Chief Minister's XI, revealed McGrath's moments of doubt after a year-long absence from Test cricket.

"We've talked a lot about it," Langer said.

"I was really keen to encourage him and just tell him to be patient because he has been, he has got a bit down on himself."

"Again he is human and he probably hasn't played much in 12 months, his confidence is down a little bit which happens to everyone, and probably never really

happened to him throughout his whole career."

"He's done really well and I think he'll be really looking forward now to the Test match coming on Thursday."

McGrath's return gives Test skipper Ricky Ponting a tricky decision on whether to hand him the new ball in tandem with old partner Jason Gillespie or give that job to Michael Kasprovicz.

"If I was (Ponting) I'd give him the new ball," said Langer.

"The boys get here tomorrow so no doubt we'll talk about it. I just thought he looked as you always expect Glenn McGrath to bowl."

### BRIEF SCORES

**NT CHIEF MINISTER'S XI:** 419 (Langer 151, Bowden 75, Treumer 65; Malinga 6-90, Maharoof 2-73, Chandana 2-118) and 145 for 9 declared (Bowden 28, Williams 23; Herath 4-45)

**SRI LANKA:** 378 for 7 declared (Sangakkara 203 not out, Jayasuriya 64; Dent 2-51) and 187 for 5 (Dilshan 66 not out, Arnold 34, Samaraweera 32; Redpath 2-22, McGrath 1-25)

**Result:** Sri Lanka beat NT Chief Minister's XI by 5 wickets.



PHOTOS: INTERNET SOURCE

PORTUGAL HERE WE COME! Arjen Robben (R, centre) is the toast of his Dutch teammates after scoring the winning penalty (L) against Sweden at Faro on June 26.

## A nightmare put to rest



AFP, Faro

The Netherlands knocked Sweden out of Euro 2004 and claimed a semi-final match-up against Portugal after a nerve tingling penalty shoot-out here on Saturday after the match ended 0-0 after extra-time.

For the Dutch it erased the nightmares of the past three Euro championships where they went out on penalties not to mention the 1998 World Cup semi-final shootout loss to Brazil.

Predictions of a high scoring encounter between two countries boasting some of the deadliest marksmen in the business were wide of the mark as the two sets of defences more than earned their salaries.

Deadlock after two hours of football on a stamina-sapping Algarve night ended in the dreaded but morbidly fascinating spot kicks, with the Dutch prevailing 5-4 with Chelsea-bound Arjen Robben getting the decisive goal.

"That is the greatest moment of

my life," said Robben, whose performances here have shown how much Manchester United have missed out on after he opted to go to Chelsea instead.

"To score the decisive penalty in such a big tournament is amazing. But I wasn't really afraid indeed I was very confident."

"Finally we have won in a shoot-out, today we fought to the end with all the team staying positive," he added.

Dick Advocaat admitted that they hadn't bothered practising for them, though he added he had brought on Bayern Munich striker Roy Makaay late in the second-half so he had a specialist penalty taker on the pitch.

"We didn't train for them because I think they are like a lottery, though I brought on Makaay because we needed another penalty taker."

"I didn't see the point in rehearsing for the penalties, I know Sweden practised and look what happened," added Advocaat, who just a week ago was enemy number one back home after what was seen as a disastrous decision to take off Robben when the Dutch lost 3-2 to the Czechs after leading 2-0.

Swedish co-coach Lars

Lagerback was philosophical in defeat.

"What can one say but well done to the Dutch."

"I am proud of the way we managed to hold such a mighty team to 0-0 over two hours of play."

"I am just sorry that we couldn't have given my co-coach Tommy Soderbergh a better send-off."

"Even if Sven-Goran Eriksson is also Swedish (the England coach having seen his side go out on penalties to Portugal) I don't think there is a curse on Swedes in penalty shootouts!"

Ruud van Nistelrooy had led the way by taking and scoring the first penalty for the Dutch and then showed how much it meant by kissing virtually every member of the 23 man squad.

Zlatan Ibrahimovic had missed Sweden's third but that was cancelled out when Dutch skipper Philip Cocu's hit the left post - the second time he has suffered such misery having had his penalty saved by Brazilian keeper Taffarell.

Sweden's skipper Olof Mellberg then had his saved - like Aston Villa team-mate Darius Vassell had in the England-Portugal penalty shootout - by Edwin van der Sar before

Robben coolly stepped up to slot the ball to the right of Andreas Isaksson.

Penalties had been preceded by extra time in which van Nistelrooy had the ball in the back of the net only for the goal to be disallowed for offside.

And Freddie Ljungberg had his head in his hands after he had a superb strike ricochet off van der Sar's left post.

The Netherlands' had a handful of chances in the first half, notably when Robben ducked inside Mikael Nilsson out on the right but his shot was tipped over the crossbar by Isaksson.

Sweden's veteran striker Henrik Larsson had tried to curl a direct freekick around the wall but it lacked legs and bounced off the wall and out of danger.

Van Nistelrooy for once was largely out of the picture but he made a bold start to the second half with a header edging over the bar and then he came up with a cagey backheeler apeing Ibrahimovic's late equaliser against Italy saved.

The Dutch were lucky to escape when a half-hearted clearance by Jaap Stam was pounced on by Ibrahimovic but Cocu kept his shot out.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

## Federer, Roddick stay on course

AFP, London

The third Sunday action in Wimbledon history saw the two top men's seeds, Roger Federer and Andy Roddick stay firmly on course for what would be a titanic final in one week's time.

Federer was imperious in dismissing Sweden's Thomas Johansson in straight sets on the Centre Court while Roddick out-gunned Taylor Dent on No.1 Court in a battle of the American heavy-weights.

Main threats to the big two, Tim Henman and Mark Philippoussis, also made it into the last 16, and they will go up against each other on Monday.

In the women's tournament, Jennifer Capriati and Amelie Mauresmo, both easily made it through to the last 16 as did the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

## Bravo restricts England



REUTERS, London

Seamer Dwayne Bravo grabbed three wickets as England crumbled to 147 all out inside 39 overs in the third one-day triangular international at Trent Bridge on Sunday.

Bravo, with three for 26, pierced England's middle-order, which had been lengthened by the inclusion of four all-rounders, to help dismiss the hosts for their lowest one-day score at the Nottingham ground.

Ian Blackwell (4) gave away his wicket pulling Bravo straight to Chanderpaul at mid-on and Bravo then tempted Anthony McGrath (9) to tentatively push outside off

stump and edge to Chris Gayle at slip.

Brian Lara's decision to put England into bat on a hard pitch had earlier been justified when left armer Ian Bradshaw dismissed

### LATEST

AFP, Nottingham

**West Indies beat England by seven wickets in their NatWest Series one-day international at Trent Bridge on Sunday.**

**West Indies - who bowled out England for 147, their lowest-ever total in a Trent Bridge one-day international - finished on 148 for three with 17.4 overs to spare.**

**Chris Gayle was 60 not out and West Indies captain Brian Lara 32 not out.**

## Forget tennis!



AFP, London

With Euro 2004 captivating football fans in this corner of the world, the tennis players at Wimbledon can't escape, feeling the pride and pain as they follow their respective teams.

And it's not just the European players getting involved.

As Tim Henman smarted from England's quarter-final heartbreak at the hands of Portugal, so too did Americans Serena Williams and Andy Roddick who adopted David Beckham's men.

Williams described Swiss referee Urs Meier's decision to disallow Sol Campbell's goal as "total robbery".

"What am I going to do now? I'm not going to watch any more," she said.

"Obviously, I don't want Portugal to win. I was really disappointed."

The women's top seed also had something to say about Beckham's miss in the penalty shootout.

"I don't know what it is about

David Beckham and kicking," she said.

"I mean, he's doing much better than what I would ever do. But it's just -- I just was disappointed."

Roddick admitted to "jumping up and down" and "going crazy" during the nail-biting match.

"I think it's unreal how almost a whole country can stop and just really support their team," he said.

"I don't know if I've seen something like that in the States before."

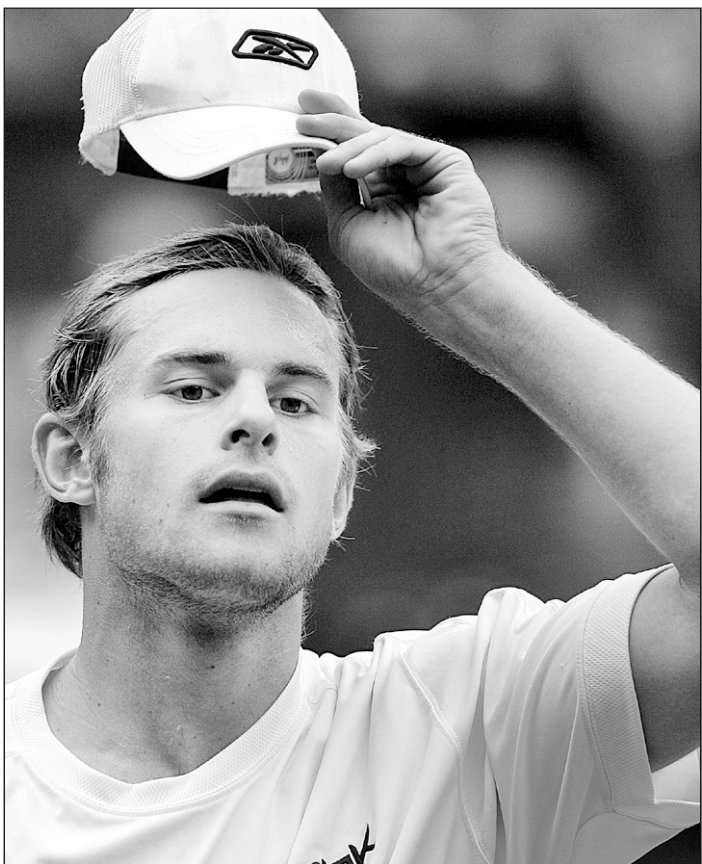
"The only thing I can think of that kind of measures up is the Super Bowl, where everybody is somewhere watching it. But lots of times it's not their teams involved, so maybe it's not as intense."

Henman, who beat Ivo Heuberger in the second round, said: "Swiss referees. Swiss opponent today. Had to make sure I got some revenge."

Asked by a Portuguese journalist to rate the hosts' performance in the match, Henman smiled: "You were pretty lucky. Is that honest enough?"

He added, referring to the terribly worn penalty spot in the Lisbon quarter-final: "They could get some better turf as well, that would be helpful."

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4



PHOTOS: AFP

HATS OFF TO SOCCER! A file photo of US tennis ace Andy Roddick.