

WHEN SPARKS FLY: Greek referee Georges Kasnaferis tries to separate England captain David Beckham (2nd from left) and Spanish goalkeeper lker Casillas after an incident involving striker Wayne Rooney (L) during their friendly in Madrid on November 17.

Hot head diplomacy!



AFP, Madrid

England skipper David Beckham sprang to the defence of tempestuous teen striker Wayne Rooney, who came within an ace of a red card during Wednesday's 1-0 friendly defeat to Spain in which he was substituted before the break.

Coach Sven-Goran Eriksson pulled Rooney off four minutes before the interval and sent on Manchester United teammate Alan Smith in his place after Rooney picked up a yellow card for a shove and altercation with Spanish keeper Iker Casillas, Beckham's Real Madrid teammate

Rooney could earlier have received at least a vellow for a late challenge on Joaquin Sanchez.

When he trudged off, the young star whose goals lit up Euro 2004 for England blotted his copybook further by throwing away the black armband which the team was wearing in honour of the memory of former England captain Emlyn Hughes, who was buried on Wednesday.

"He won't remember this game for scoring three goals but for other things," Eriksson remarked afterwards. "He's young, he's got things to learn and he's sorry about what

indeed learn from the experience.

Beckham insisted Rooney would

"What people have got to realise is that Wayne is 18 years old, he's 19. He looks like a man, he holds himself like a man, But you know sometimes that happens. He's young.

"It's not about cutting it (the

pletely. That's part of his game, that's what makes him a great player and loved by so many people.

Beckham said that Rooney would soon learn to "calm down" and revealed some senior players had spoken to the teen during the game to warn him of the need to keep his exuberant temperament under

"Wayne will learn himself" from the experience, Beckham added, though he revealed that "I think he was upset obviously, coming off, and it was frustrating for him.

But Wayne is a great player and he'll be out there again on Saturday for Man United, working hard and pressurising people like he did

On Eriksson's move to remove Rooney before any more red mist descended, Beckham observed that

which he feels are best for the players and for England." Eriksson himself said he felt

sympathy for Rooney. 'It's the frustration," said the Swede, while adding: "I've seen it before and probably I will see it

"I am not worried about Wayne

Eriksson admitted that throwing down his armband had been an act of sheer petulance in the heat of the

"It was disrespectful and it shouldn't have happened."

Summing up the evening, Eriksson said England had been tactically naive in the first half.

"The second half was a little bit better. But in the first half I'm sorry

Rooney was a prime culprit on

Attack Germany attack!

AFP, Leipzig

Germany scored just twice in the Euro 2004 championships as the 2002 World Cup finalists crashed out at the group hurdle prompting coach Rudi Voller to step down.

'Cautious' was a word often used to describe Germany under Voller but that is not the style of his replacement Jurgen Klinsmann, whose attacking outlook was underlined by Germany's 3-0 win over Cameroon in Leipzig on Wednesday. Under 1990 World Cup winner

Klinsmann, 40, Germany have scored nine times in four matches and no longer look reliant on setpieces or a wonder goal from captain Michael Ballack.

We kept pushing for the goal and that was a positive factor," explained Klinsmann. "We had a lot of chances and I knew it was just a matter of time before we converted one of them.

"We have been trying to play at a higher tempo and be more offen-

Werder Bremen's Miroslav Klose and VfB Stuttgart's Kevin Kuranyi both left the Portugal finals without goal to their name but this new attacking approach has benefited both strikers.

Brazilian-born Kuranyi could have had a hat-trick but had to settle for a solo strike in the 71st minute as an awful Cameroon offside trap allowed him to surge clear and slot the ball home.

It was Kuranyi's fifth goal in four matches under Klinsmann.

Polish-born marksman Klose, a forlorn figure in Euro 2004, showed his predator instinct to volley home in the 78th minute as Germany ploughed forward.

"Strikers play better when they have confidence and we are trying to give them that," declared Klinsmann.

Pires let off easy

AFP, Paris

France international Robert Pires has escaped with a fine after appearing in a television interview wearing his personal sponsor's clothing instead of the French federation's official clothing

The Arsenal midfielder apeared before French foootball's governing body the FFF on Monday and could have faced a suffer punishment wth the case being referred to a discilinary body.

FFF president Claude Simonet said Thursday: "He recognised his

Pires, who was dropped for Wednesday's friendly against Poland after publically criticising coach Raymond Domenech, has said he is ready to pay any fine.

"I understand the rules. I won't make the same mistake," he said.

"I didn't intend to provoke," he "It was a free day and I thought I

was off duty."

The knives are out

AFP, Guangzhou



was left to reflect on a disastrous year on Thursday after an embarrassing early exit from World Cup

Chinese football

qualifying added to problems in the corruption-plagued domestic

The World Cup flop, with China pipped on goals scored by Kuwait despite whipping Hong Kong 7-0 on Wednesday, completed a miserable run since the Asian Cup final loss to fierce rivals Japan in August.

"I'm empty inside," said coach Arie Haan, whose contract was ripped up after the qualifying debacle. "I feel sad for the players and for everybody who was involved in the game. You can't come closer than this."

China's press screamed for urgent reforms after the elimination, which comes with the newly launched Super League plagued by walk-out threats, corruption allegations and low atten-

"Chinese football kills itself," said the Beijing Youth Daily.

"Nothing can be worse than that, the Chinese team won by seven goals but still can't qualify," it said.

The Chinese Football Association (CFA) rallied round Dutchman Haan, brought in to revitalise China's fortunes after their goalless World Cup finals debut in 2002.

"It's easy to blame the head coach after the team's elimination, but we wouldn't do that," said CFA vice president Nan Yong.

"He is a hard-working and compe-tent coach and he has ideas and his own ways of doing things. But while some newspapers

blamed Haan for the disappointment, others trained their sights on the CFA "The CFA, as a manager, should be blamed," said the Beijing Times,

saying the players were paid too much and new talent was not being brought through. "Chinese football players earn lots of money but their skills and compe-

tence don't qualify their salary. They are becoming more and more impulsive," it said. "We need to improve the competence of Chinese football by playing

down the impulsive attitude, practis-

ing basic tactics, and hiring a smart But Haan urged the CFA not to

panic and make wholesale changes despiteWednesday's setback. "I hope that just because Kuwait scored one goal more than China

estart again from zero," said Haan. You have to accept some things. It's not possible that you come from nothing without stopping somewhere and go straight to the top. Somewhere you will have obstacles.

"But don't destroy everything because you will come back even

ronger the next time." He pointed to China's impressive recent record including runner-up

spot at the Asian Cup in August. "In the last year we played 22 games, won 20 and lost two, against Japan and Korea. As a total it's a very good result but anyway it's not enough."

However, the CFA will have to work hard to rescue its problem-plagued Super League, seven of whose 12 teams have threatened to walk out over widespread corruption and gambling allegations, and the respect of the press and fans.

The governing body has acknowledged severe irregularities in the competition and pledged to reform the league, vowing to open up its accounts to all clubs. It also put forward a vague commitment to better share league revenues with the teams.

The CFA must also restore its standing among Chinese fans, who booed its top bosses loudly at the Asian Cup's July opening ceremony in

The competition highlighted China's problems with football hooli-gans when thousands of fans staged angry demonstrations after losing the final to Japan.

In another unwelcome development, Liaoning goalkeeper Liu Jiansheng, who is also linked to a match-fixing scandal, has reportedly tested positive for the use of recre-ational drugs amphetamine and methylamphetamine.



Dated: 2.11.04

Md. Bazlur Rahman

Executive Engineer

LGED. Rajshahi

ANOTHER FOUR YEARS: A young Chinese fan breaks down in tears after learning that national team failed to qualify for the 2006 FIFA World Cup despite thrashing Hong Kong 7-0 in a qualifier on November 17.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Executive Engineer, District-Rajshahi

Memo No-LGED/XEN/Raj/X-1/2004-05 (Part-5)/2673

Invitation For Tender (IFT) Tender Notice No. 02/2004-05

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender documents for the different work as par terms & conditions stated below 1 Project name

AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF						
2	Source of fund	GOB.				
3.	Tender Package No	Raj-BC/Bridge-15.				
4	Invitation for tender No & Date	02/2004-2005 & Date: 01-11-2004.				
5	Eligibility of tenderers	Contractors/pre-qualified contractor/interested qualified firms & person having skill manpower & proper experience.				
6	Name & address of the office(s) selling tender document	Interested tenderers may visit the documents at the office(s) selling the tender documents during normal working hours as below. Office of the i) Project Director, RIDP (PMP), LGED, LGED Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207. ii) Deputy Commissioner, Dist. Rajshahi iii) Police Super, Rajshahi. iv) Executive Engineer, LGED, Rajshahi. v) Upazila Engineer's Office Paba/Durgapur/Charghat/Godagari, Mohanpur under Rajshahi district.				
7	Name & address of receiving tenders	i) Deputy Commissioner, Dist. Rajshahi. ii) Police Super, Rajshahi. iii) Executive Engineer, LGED, Rajshahi iv) Upazila Engineer's Office Paba, Rajshahi				
8	Name & address of the office opining tenders	Office of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Rajshahi.				
9	Last date & time for selling tender documents	19-12-2004 & time 4-00pm.				
10	Last date & time for tender submission	20-12-2004 & time 1-00 pm.				
11	Date & time for tender opening	20-12-2004 & time 1-30pm. Tenderers authorized representatives are allowed to attend:				
12	Place of pre-tender meeting	Office of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Rajshahi.				
13	Date & time of pre-tender meeting	6-12-2004 & time 11-00am.				
40						

11 D	late & time for tender opening	20-12-2004 & time 1-30pm. Tenderers authorized representatives are allowed to attend.					
12 P	lace of pre-tender meeting	Office of the Execu	Office of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Rajshahi.				
	ate & time of pre-tender meeting	6-12-2004 & time 11-00am.					
14 B	rief description of works.						
Lot Number	Identification of Lot	Location	Price of tender document in Taka	Tender security amount in Taka	Time for completion in weeks/mont h	Remarks	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
A SHIP	Construction of BC Road fro	m:			0110		
1	Premtoli-Ai Hi.	Godagari	750/=	51000/=	3-month	Part-01.	
2	Premtoli-Ai Hi	Godagari	750/=	38000/=	3-month	Part-02.	
3	Kadom Shahor-Vagail	Godagari	750/=	54000/=	3-month	Part-02.	
4	Kaom Shahor-Dariapur	Godagari	750/=	38000/=	3-month	Part-01.	
5	Kamargaon UP officeChowbaria	hat. Tanore	750/=	51000/=	- 3-month	Part-01.	
6	Kamargaon UP officeChowbaria	hat. Tanore	750/=	51000/=	3-month	Part-02.	
7	Kamargaon UP officeChowbaria	hat. Tanore	750/=	51000/=	3-month	Part-03.	
8	Ahashanganj-Naldanga	Bagmara	750/=	64000/=	3-month	Part-01	
9	Ahashanganj-Naldanga	Bagmara	750/=	64000/=	3-month	Part-02	
10	Ahashanganj-Naldanga	Bagmara	750/=	63000/=	3-month	Part-03	
11	Baliher Eidgah-Tentulia hat	Bagha	750/=	64000/=	3-month	Part-01	
12	Baliher Eidgah-Tentulia hat	Bagha	750/=	64000/=	3-month	Part-02	
13	Yousufpur-Chowmohoni	Charghat	750/=	38000/=	3-month	Part-01	
14	Yousufpir-Chowmohoni	Charghat	750/=	38000/=	3-month	Part-02	
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Taherpur-Ekdala Ferry ghat road on Barnoi Bagmara 3000/= 2,85,000/= The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders prior to acceptance. Special instruction Detail informations are available in the offices mentioned in the column No-6.

Racism rears its ugly head Not the right time



Racist chanting aimed at black England players at a football friendly international in Spain sparked an angry reaction Thursday at the highest levels of

The British and Spanish prime ministers deplored the actions of a minority of fans at Wednesday night's game who were seen and heard making monkey grunts and

both governments and calls for an

inquiry by the game's governing

chanting abuse. A spokeswoman for British Prime Minister Tony Blair's office said he, "like everybody in the country, was very disappointed with what happened last night

(Wednesday) in Spain. "He believes racism has no part to play in sport or anywhere else for

that matter." A spokesman in Madrid for Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero told AFP "the Spanish government judges what happened as lamentable and sees it as absolutely intolerable that racist atti-

tudes be expressed in sport." The abuse was meted out each time by hundreds of Spanish fans each time one of England's black players touched the ball in the game in Madrid, which Spain won

The Spanish government spokesman said Zapatero was studying" what measures should be taken with the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF).

British Minister for Sport Richard Caborn said after the game that Britain would demand action from the sport's European govern-

ing body, UEFA. The Spanish federation issued a statement after the government's comments saying it would strengthen contacts with groups

such as Football Against Racism in insults. It starts with insults and Europe and Spain's ECRA (Spanish coalition against racism, xenophobia and discrimination).

"The RFEF intends to intensify (these) contacts to develop work under way since last season against racism in football," it added.

Last month, Spain coach Luis Aragones was widely criticised for an off the cuff racist remark about black Arsenal and France striker Thierry Henry. Aragones insisted that he was

merely trying to gee up Henry's team-mate and Spain international Jose Antonio Reyes during a training session. Aragones was again in hot water Monday for making disparaging references to Britain's colonial history, and when England players

were training ahead of the game, they pointedly wore T-shirts bearing the message 'let's kick racism out of football,' the logo of an antiracism campaign in England. On Tuesday evening, England's Football Association wrote to UEFA and FIFA, the world governing body, to complain about abuse

in that night's under-21 international against Spain. This was abuse of a clearly racist nature targeted at all the black players on the pitch and it was fairly sustained throughout the match," an English FA spokesman

suffered by England's black players

saidWednesday. Mohamed Sissoko, a teenage Mali international with Valencia, one of Spain's top clubs, and one of the few black players in the Spanish league, agreed that "things must change.

"This happens every week at every ground in Spain," he told AFP. Every time we play away they insult me. Last week at Getafe they insulted me all the way through the

me and said not to get down about it. "At the Santiago Bernabeu I've also been the subject of racist | dollars).

match. My teammates supported

then they go 'ooh, ooh, to imitate

monkeys' Sissoko insisted Spain was not

an inherently racist country. "Sincerely, I don't think so. I have never had a problem with racism off the pitch, in my daily life or with other players, even oppo-

"But in the stadium there is a problem. I think there are a few who start it off and every one joins in unthinkingly." Racism is not new in football --

in May 2003, the English FA received the biggest ever racismlinked UEFA fine, 150,000 Swiss francs, after fans abused Turkish players during a European championship qualifying match in north-

east England. The same campaign saw Slovakia fined 60,000 Swiss francs for abuse directed at two black England players at a game in

Anglo-Franco Wembley dawn

England have looked to neighbours France to help celebrate the opening of the new Wembley stadium in March 2006.

A French football federation official confirmed the news here Thursday, saying they had accepted an invitation to play England.

A return friendly is scheduled to be held in France in November, When completed in early 2006,

the new Wembley Stadium - built

and run by the Football Association will be the biggest soccer stadium in the world, with state-of-the-art facilities and seating for 90,000 fans. The redevelopment is costing 757 million pounds (1.17 billion

moment.

to say we lost our heads." aggression) out of his game com- "the manager makes decisions that score.

Football

REUTERS, Rio de Janeiro

The kidnapping of Robinho's mother has temporarily suspended what was fast turning into an auction of Brazilian football's most exciting young talent.

European clubs, with Real Madrid almost inevitably heading the pack, had been falling over themselves to sign the 20-year-old forward until his mother was snatched by two armed men who invaded a harbeque in the Santos neighbourhood of Praia Grande on November 6.

Nothing has been heard of 43-year-old Marina de Souza since the media heeded Robinho's plea to leave his family in peace two days after the kidnapping. Robinho has missed Santos's last

two games after coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo decided he would be exposed to unnecessary extra pub-In the meantime, his agent Wagner Ribeiro has suspended all negotiations which, according to media reports, have also at various

PSV Eindhoven, Benfica and The kidnapping came at a time when Robinho, whose full name is Robson de Souza, had rediscovered the touch which made him the sensation of Brazilian football two

stages included Atletico Madrid,

Robinho burst on to the scene as an 18-year-old during the 2002 season and, along with 17-year-old team mate Diego who is now with European champions Porto, inspired Santos to the first Brazilian championship title in their history. His cheeky dribbling skills delighted his admirers and infuri-

ated his opponents in equal mea-Pele, who spent 17 years of his career at Santos, said that he was reminded of himself when he first saw Robinho as a 15-year-old playing in the junior divisions.

start of my career," he said. Gremio goalkeeper Danrlei, on the other hand, publicly warned the teenager that he risked getting his

leg broken if he continued to humiliate older defenders. "Players get angry when they get dribbled past all the time," said Danrlei after his team lost 3-0 to a Robinho-inspired Santos. "He could

end up having his leg broken." Robinho took no heed and quickly made the "pedalada", or stepover, his trademark. Brazilian television endlessly replayed a move in that year's Brazilian championship final

performed eight stepovers as he provoked an opponent into giving way a penalty against him. Two months later, Robinho was given a standing ovation by a rival crowd in the Colombian city of Cali after leading Santos to a 5-1 win over

against Corinthians when Robinho

local side America in the Libertadores Cup.
Almost inevitably, however, the publicity took its toll and problems

was in the Brazilian under-23 team which astonishingly failed to qualify for the Olympic Games in Greece. A 1-0 defeat by Paraguay in their final match sent their smaller neigh-

bours to Athens instead, along with

At the start of this year, Robinho

Robinho and Diego were accused of overconfidence. Brazil slunk home and Robinho went through a quiet patch.

But, as this year's Brazilian cham-

pionship has gone on, Robinho has His dribbling is slightly less cheeky than it was but, on the other hand, he has become much sharper in front of goal and is currently is Santos's top scorer with 21 goals.

* Robinho has won only two full

caps for Brazil, although some

blame this on coach Carlos Alberto Parreira rather than the player Robinho is the favourite player of all supporters in Brazil," said Tostao. "His talent, his fantasy and

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his spontaneous smile delight "This lad takes me back to the everyone. Except Parreira..."