The Daily Star

Sport

make you lose your temper.'

Daniella Cicarelli

penthouse.

Off the field, Ronaldo's private life

has recently been exposed as rarely

before, especially following his short-

lived engagement to Brazilian model

He is frequently followed by

paparazzi and the latest reminder of

his lack of privacy came this week

when a popular newspaper took a

picture of him flying a kite on the

balcony of his huge Rio de Janeiro

"I've been famous since I was 16

"When it's children, the elderly, or

He added: "They think that because

re're famous, we play football and

"But there's a limit for everything

Being paid millions of dollars for

we're well-paid, then we have to put up

and, as well as being footballers, we're

Hungry Vaughan

Cricket **Sportinglife**

England captain Michael Vaughan has challenged his Ashes-winning side to "beat everyone in the world"

over the next two years. The series victory over Australia lifted England closer to the world champions in the International Cricket Council rankings but Vaughan stressed there was still much to do before the Aussies were finally toppled.

This winter's tours to Pakistan and India will prove crucial in assessing how close England are to becoming the best side in the world. And Vaughan said: "Our next

challenge is to continue our success. "We have beaten every team over

the last two years and we have got to make sure we do that over the next two years.

"Australia away in 16 months' time is the real, true test but Pakistan and India away are massive challenges for the team. "I'm sure we can go out there and

play well." England's job on the sub-

continent was not made any easier by the withdrawal this week of

Cricket

some Pakistani batsmen

The forced withdrawal of England fast

bowler Simon Jones from the Pakistan

tour this winter has brought relief to

their recent Ashes triumph with 18

wickets at 21 apiece, has been ruled out

of the tour with an injured right ankle.

said on Friday that Jones' absence

would be a big setback for the touring

England. Because he was the one

bowler who really mastered the art of

bowling reverse swing at a good pace in

five one-day internationals in

England are to play three Tests and

the Ashes series," Khan said.

Cricket

AFP, Karach

Jones, England's best bowler in

Pakistani vice-captain Younis Khan

"It is good for us and bad for

REUTERS, Karach

team

Glamorgan paceman Simon Jones, who failed to overcome the ankle what they can do.

victory at Trent Bridge which kept him out of the thrilling series finale at The Oval.



has become a real potent threat,

"He will be missed but we have coped with players having injuries over the last couple of years very well

Pakistan batters offer

England sympathy

November 12.

shine quickly.

ball

India.

someone else to come in and show

injury sustained in the fourth Test Although replacements for Jones appear to be thin on the ground, with

Chris Tremlett also struggling with injury and no obvious candidate "It is certainly a blow because he working with the academy squad this winter. Vaughan is confident the

roles in the future.

through London.

on sale on Thursday,

team with ambition.

The England captain is also deter-

together for a number of years,"

"The ones who do become com-

"We have played good cricket for

two years, not just this summer, but

there will be blips along the way. It is

how you cope with the odd failure

Australia and he was the one who

formed a good pair with Andrew

Flintoff with the old ball," Kamal said.

Latif said the openers would have to be

very watchful against Matthew

Hoggard with his ability to disguise his

straight ball while swinging the new

attack but Jones' injury means they are

going to miss a key component in

of injuries to its pace bowlers. Shoaib

Akhtar, Mohammad Sami and Umar

Gul have all had fitness problems in

recent months and Shabbir Ahmed is

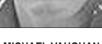
still under a cloud over his bowling

Pakistan is also coping with a spate

"England overall have a good pace

Former Pakistan skipper Rashid

which is the most important thing.



MICHAEL VAUGHAN

especially with his reverse swing which plays a big part of the bowling armoury in Pakistan and India," added Vaughan.

Pakistan. They arrive on October 26

and the first Test in Multan starts on

against Australia, causing their bats

men numerous problems with his

pace and ability to reverse swing the

very dangerous on the abrasive pitches

of Pakistan where the ball loses its

the ball at good pace can be very

batsman since last October, scoring

three hundreds in his last four tests

including a double century against

batsman, Asim Kamal, said that bowl-

ing conditions were different in

Another connsistent Pakistani

difficult to face on our tracks.

Jones led the England bowling

Khan said Jones would have been

'Any bowler who can reverse swing

Khan has been Pakistan's best

"The challenge is now that everyone expects us to do well all the time but I can cope with that and it is good challenge to take to Pakistan." and it creates an opportunity for

been a threat.

ball both ways.

Pakistan," he said.

Greg Chappell's rigorous fitness regime might be too taxing for some of the players in the Indian cricket team but it has earned praise from Yuvraj Singh, who said today his teammates were "happy" with the

Yuvraj approves

Chappell's style

CRICINFO

Australian's coaching methods. majority of his team will all play major "I don't think that Chappell's fitness regime is too harsh," said Yuvraj in an interview with PTI.

mined not to allow them to bask in the "All the boys are happy doing it. glory of the win over Australia which The fitness level of the team has prompted the open-top bus parade improved and we are still working on it here. I share a good rapport "It is a young team who can play with the coach and I am happy with Vaughan said at the launch of four him."

special Royal Mail stamps to mark Yuvraj added that the row England's Ashes victory which went between his captain, Souray Ganguly, and Chappell had been a distraction, but now the most placent are generally not the winners important thing was for the teamand we tend to have a lot of guys in the mates to retain a sense of unity.

"It was definitely disappointing and I would be lying if I don't say so. But we have to forget everything and move ahead for the betterment of the game. If I was the captain, I would have talked to the team and asked the players to be together in the present situation.'

But Yuvrai had some words of support for his beleaguered captain, saving he had given a chance to many youngsters, and now it was their turn to cooperate with him.

"At times, a senior player deserves a chance while youngsters can sit out in view of the contribution by the senior to the team," he said. "There is nothing to feel bad

Yuvraj, who scored 120 in the last league match against New Zealand in the tri-series in Zimbabwe recently, felt that overall India needed to raise their level against the big teams in one-dayers.

About India's dismal performance last year, he said: "We had many good years before that and it was only one bad year. It will pass."

On the personal front, he said having established himself in the one-day internationals, he was now concentrating on cementing his place in the Test side.

"My one-day record is okay and now I am working hard for my place in the Tests," Yuvraj said.

"Now I play with more responsibility in the middle order. I try to last till the end of the game."

Zia shares

FROM PAGE 12

Zia was pitted against Deepsen Gupta of India but his compatriots were facing tougher opponents. Reefat was playing Iranian GM Ghaem Maghami Ehsan while Rajib and Rakib were up against Indian GMs Avijit Kunte and

Thoughts from Ronaldo

Football

REUTERS, Tresopolis Brazil striker Ronaldo joined the controversy over new technology in football on Thursday when he criticised ear-pieces, artificial pitches and so-called intelligent balls.

Vanderlei Luxemburgo, Ronaldo's coach at Real Madrid, recently tested a system which allowed him to pass instructions on a walkie-talkie to his captain Raul during the match.

Raul received the instructions via an earpiece held in place by tape as Luxemburgo repeated an experiment he had tried to implement at Brazilian club Corinthians before it was banned by local authorities. Ronaldo did not appear keen at having either Luxemburgo or Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira speaking to him

during matches. "I don't see any advantage in this, Ronaldo told Reuters in an interview at Brazil's training camp

"Apart from being uncomfortable in the ear, it doesn't really alter anything. On the pitch, the most important thing, apart from being wellpositioned tactically, is to carry out what you have done during the week in training

"Usually, it's the quality of the players which decides the match, not having the coach telling you whether it's the right moment to take on the defender or not."

Ronaldo was equally unenthusiastic about the innovations tested by FIFA at the world under-17 championship in Peru

The competition was played on synthetic pitches and each match ball contained a chip indicating to the referee whether or not it had entirely crossed the line on entering the goal.

The chips send a signal to the referee's watch via sensors around the pitch.

"I think a much easier and more viable solution for this type of situation would be to have more referees," said Ronaldo

"In basketball, which has fewer players on the court, you have several controlling the game while we just have two linesmen and the referee.

"It would be much easier to put a linesman behind the goal or next to the post, and I think this would sort out a

Week of climax

Football

AFP. Paris

European heavyweights England and France look to land crucial knockout blows on Saturday as the marathon battle to reach the World Cup finals enters the home straight.

lot of problems. He said he preferred more assistants on the touchline rather than on the field

"I don't think you need anyone else on the pitch itself because the referee is always in good shape, he is always close to the game. But he needs more assistants to help him, to spot things he can't see.'

When it came to artificial pitches, Ronaldo spoke from personal experience.

"In my case, I'm not very keen on the artificial pitch," he said. "I trained a lot on artificial pitches in Italy, during their winter for example, and the impact is much greater on the joints. "Even the pitch is a little bad, I

prefer grass." Ronaldo said he wants soccer's

authorities to listen to the players before adding to an ever growing fixture list.

Ronaldo also defended the multimillion dollar salaries earned by modern-day players, described Argentine and Uruguavan defenders as specialists in provocation and said he would continue to play for Brazil for as long as he enjoyed it.

Ronaldo fell victim to fixture congestion problems earlier this year when he landed himself in hot water by asking Brazil to rest him from the Confederations Cup.

Coach Parreira, who had warned that the national team was more important than holidays, eventually agreed -- but also released him from the preceding two World Cup qualifiers, including one away to Argentina.

"I fought to have my holidays respected, otherwise one season would have run into the other and in the year before the World Cup this would have been complicated.

"The players don't have time to unwind. In Europe we have two comnetitions which are very important, the Spanish championship and the Champions League, and this gives you very little time to recover

"I think the right thing would be for and Uruguayans, use more gamesthe players' opinions to be heard. We're the ones who put on the show, their opponents. we go onto the field, we play every weekend, sometimes twice a week, so I think it would be important to hear what we've got to say.

"But this doesn't happen at the moment. Unfortunately, the players as

Switzerland, but behind on goal

difference, and finish the qualifying

Switzerland have to face Ireland in

Dublin in their last match on Oct 12

and can qualify ahead of France if they

beat the French and draw in Ireland or

if they draw with France and then beat

campaign against Cyprus.

Ireland.

a profession are not united and not many people listen to us.

"When they draw up the calendar, the last thing they think about is the physical condition of the players. Nobody thinks about whether we can complete a year playing three competitions, other things are more important."

Although he did not enjoy being dropped by Brazil, Ronaldo says the incident is water under the bridge as he gears up for his fourth World Cup in Germany next year

After sitting on the bench as a 17and so I'm completely used to this," he year-old in 1994, failing to meet expecsaid tations in 1998 and resurrecting his career from the misery of two knee when people are polite, it's nice atteninjuries in 2002, he sees 2006 as what tion, it's enjoyable. But a lot of people he calls the "confirmation". don't know how to approach you in an

"I'm very keen, I'm very motivated educated manner and then it becomes for this World Cup and I hope to help a pain.' win another title for the Brazil team, he said.

Despite reports that this will be his last World Cup, Ronaldo, who turns 30 next year, has set no date for his international retirement.

normal people and we want to have "Maybe there was a wrong interpretation," he said. "My aim was our life as well. always to keep playing for Brazil and keep playing football as long as I got kicking a ball around a pitch is some pleasure from doing this. It's not about thing which Ronaldo believes is justia certain date, a certain period.' fied

have to face on the way.

Germany, Italy.

team," he added.

said of the European champions.

"I think so," he said when asked if He does not see any Greek-style Euro 2004 upsets next year and is he deserved his salary. unconcerned about who Brazil may "I think we provide joy and happi-

with everything.

ness for a lot of people. Football is a "I don't think there's room for that business which generates millions and kind of surprise at the World Cup," he millions of dollars and I think we're the biggest stars in football, so I think we "You might get the odd surprise in must be well paid to do this."

He added that footballers also tried the first round, maybe one of the favourites getting knocked out, but I to make a positive contribution in think the favourites are the same ones return. as usual, Brazil, Argentina, France, "I've been a United Nations ambas-

sador for eight years and I'm very "We have to be ready to face any active with a lot of missions," he said. "I would like more players to take

He had no doubt, however, about part in these things, there are quite a the two most frustrating opponents.

few involved today but it's still not enough "In our condition as superstars, we have credibility. This type of social work is important and I think football-

manship and always try to provoke ers have to use their image to pass on a "These two countries are the positive message. specialists in provocation, let's say.

"When the ball's up the other end of the field, they kick you from behind, they insult your mother, they do everything they can to provoke and

"It's true that the South American

players, in particular the Argentines

Brazil rest big boys

against the Slovenians in Palermo on **REUTERS.** Tresopolis Saturday enough to put Marcello

Ronaldo, Ronaldinho, Ç Roberto Carlos, Cafu and Kaka will be among eight players rested by world champions Brazil

for Sunday's World Cup qualifier away to Bolivia. "We lost the first match against them so we know it won't be an easy announced on Thursday that Brazil

game.

game.

ahead

up.

Coach Carlos Alberto Parreira

who have already made sure of their

place in Germany, would also leave

goalkeeper Dida, defender Juan and

midfielder Emerson at home for the

Parreira had initially named a 26-

'We will take the chance to observe

'Despite the game being at altitude.

some players who haven't been playing

and will now get the chance to show what

I'm confident that this team will put on a

good performance and can win the

Parreira added that Brazil, who are

second in the 10-nation South American

World Cup qualifying group with 30

points from 16 games, could still overhaul

arch-rivals Argentina, who are one point

first, for our ego, for our position in world

football,' he said. 'We have to win our last

two games and hope that Argentina slip

Brazil complete their programme at

Nery (Corinthians), Luisao (Benfica),

Lucio (Bayern Munich), Roque Junior

Midfielders: Renato (Sevilla), Gilberto

Silva (Arsenal), Gilberto (Hertha Berlin),

Juninho Pernambucano (Olympique

Lyon), Ze Roberto (Bayern Munich), Julio

Baptista (Real Madrid), Ricardinho

Forwards: Robinho (Real Madrid),

Ricardo Oliveira (Betis), Adriano (Inter

And about Twenty20 cricket it is a

Bashar, who has signed for Acme

to play in the Corporate Cricket

League (CCL), will miss the first

match of the domestic curtain-raiser

But the country's premier bats-

"I'll try to return home by October

man was determined to be back in

14 so that I can take part in our second

fixture. It won't be not easy though

time for the second game.

after a long journey."

event. The league starts on Monday.

totally useless concept," he added.

(Santos), Alex (Fenerbahce)

Bashar off

FROM PAGE 12

(Bayer Leverkusen)

Milan)

'Brazil must always think about being

man squad for the match in La Paz at

3,600 metres above sea level.

they can do,' Parreira said.

October 26 to play three Tests and five one-day matches. The first Test starts Farhan Zakir, sales director at the five-

"It's business time for us," said in the central city of Multan from star hotel Pearl Continental, which

about it. Pakistan but Iones would still have "He took the key wickets against

Regardless of whether England or Pakistan come out on top in their upcoming cricket series, the big winners are likely to be the South Asian country's hotel owners.

Pakistan expects an massive invasion by England's "Barmy Army' of fans on a high following Michael Vaughan's side's historic Ashes triumph over rivals Australia last month.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said the English cricket authorities had warned them to brace for a rush of supporters due to soaring interest in the game.

"We expect four times more than the usual number of guests and fans," PCB director of operations Abbas Zaidi said.

"At the moment we can't give the exact number but we are liaising with the England and Wales Cricket Board and Pakistan's High Commission (embassy) in England,

Derbyshire prefer Langer as capt

CRICKET365

Justin Langer has emerged as the leading candidate to replace Luke Sutton as Derbyshire captain.

The 34-year-old opener Australia's leading batsman in this summer's Ashes Series, has been earmarked for the role by director of cricket Dave Houghton, chief executive Tom Sears and chairman Don Amott.

Sears met Langer during Australia's tour match against Worcestershire -- who have also expressed an interest -- and is optimistic he will join the club who finished bottom of this year's Frizzell County Championship.

He told his county's official website: "We drew up a list of criteria we wanted in an overseas player and then looked at the people who would fit the bill.

"We wanted a proven world-class player who would command instant respect, someone with the character and appetite for the challenges here at Derbyshire and a leader to inspire the other players in our squad."

November 12. Just as an influx of Indian fans

provided a windfall for Pakistani hoteliers during India's tour last year, the business has high hopes during the England series.

"There are no rooms during the Test match because all our 94 rooms are booked," said Naveed Nazir of the Holiday Inn, the only four-star hotel in Multan, which is charging 150 dollars a day

Other smaller hotels have doubled their rates to 75 and 100 dollars a day. Faisalabad, the venue of the sec-

ond Test from November 20, is even more jammed as all 140 rooms in the only five-star hotel, the Serena, have been booked by the Pakistan Cricket Board for teams, guests and fans.

And the border city of Lahore

of 250 to 300 dollars a day.

world.

expects fans from neighbouring India as well as England for the third Test from November 29, as well as for the first two one-day internationals in

India wants to **host 2011 WC**

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

third World Cup.

we will make a strong pitch for it," Dalmiya said.

"Not only four of the 10 Testcricket," he said.

has rooms available but at a high price

The tour has an added edge following Vaughan's comments that England want to take Australia's crown as the number one side in the

They can only do that by beating Pakistan and then India, where they tour early next year, although if Australia also play well in their winter series against West Indies and South Africa then they will likely stay on top.

"Ticket sales are likely to start next week through the Internet and banks, the PCB's Zaidi.

completing security preparations for the England team as well as for the Barmy Army. England said they would only play a one-day instead of a proposed Test in the violence-plagued southern port city of Karachi.

India will make an aggressive bid to host the 2011 cricket World Cup in the sub-continent when the International Cricket Council (ICC) meets in Sydney next week, a top official said on Friday. Asian cricket chief Jagmohan

Dalmiya, a former ICC president, said would formally propose at the ICC's executive board meeting on Monday that the sub-continent, which comprises four Test nations, hold every

"I am told that Australia is a strong contender for the 2011 World Cup, but

playing nations -- India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh -- are from the sub-continent, but the region generates the maximum funds for world "It is only fair that every third so the ball is already rolling," added In the meantime the PCB is also 276

of the world.

The sport's premier limited-overs tournament, held every four years, has been held twice before in the subcontinent.

India and Pakistan jointly organised the World Cup in 1987 and brought in Sri Lanka as co-hosts for the 1996 event.

World Cup should be held in our part

Dalmiya said a joint bid by India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh for the 2011 tournament was a possibility, although no details had been finalised.

"We are open to the idea," he "It will be a great advertiseme the popularity of cricket in the continent."

Pakistan, Sri Lanka Bangladesh have all expressed a to join India in hosting the to ment

India will also organise the bie Champions Trophy between the top eight one-day nations in 2006 after the government agreed to exempt the tournament from taxes.

Sandipan Chanda respectively

Glorious Gilchrist

FROM PAGE 12 Series one-day international between Australia and World XI at Docklands

Stadium on Friday: AUSTRALIA ilchrigth Sohway

Gilchrist b Sehwag	103
Katich b Muralitharan	47
Ponting run out (Flintoff)	66
Martyn b Flintoff	54
Symonds not out	31
Clarke not out	17
Extras: (lb-4, w-1, nb-5)	10
Total: (For 4 wkts in 50 overs)	328
Fall of wickets: 1-110, 2-173, 3	3-276, 4-

Did not bat: Hussey, Watson, Lee, Bracken, Clark. М Bowler R W

Akhtar	8	1	61	0
Pollock	8	0	49	0
Flintoff	8	0	64	1
Muralitharan	10	0	43	1
Vettori	10	0	54	0
Kallis	3	0	33	0
Sehwag	3	0	20	1

21

54

61

11

5

26

42

16

15

10

2

10

W

R

47

WORLDXI

Sehwag c Ponting b Lee Gayle c Gilchrist b Watson Sangakkara run out (Martyn) Kallis run out (Ponting) Lara c Symonds b Bracken Dravid b Symonds Flintoff c Symonds b Bracken Pietersen c Watson b Clark Pollock c White b Clark Vettori not out Akhtar c Watson b Bracken Extras: (lb-1, w-6, nb-3) Total: (All out in 45.3 overs) 273

Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-125, 3-151, 4-157, 5-157, 6-220, 7-235, 8-250, 9-267 10-273

(Gayle replaced Muralitharan as a super sub) Μ 0 Bowler 8 1 Lee

said.	Bracken	7.3	0	43	3				
ent for	Clark	9	0	55	2				
e sub-	Watson	10	1	56]				
	Symonds	8	0	49]				
a n d	White	3	0	22	(
desire	(White rep	laced K	atich	as a s	upe				
ourna-									
	Result: Australia won by 55 runs.								
ennial	Man-of-the-match: Adam Gilchris								
ciinia	(AUS).								

Australia lead series 2-0. Toss:Australia Umpires: Rudi Koertzen (RSA) Darrell Hair (AUS)

makeweights Austria in Manchester and France, who face a tricky Group Four assignment in Switzerland, will have to negotiate their way to the finish line without some of their big-

But England, who face

hitters. Sven-Goran Eriksson's men, still smarting from an embarrassing 1-0 defeat to Northern Ireland last month are without suspended striker Wayne Rooney while defensive lynchpin Ashley Cole is out with a stress fracture of the foot.

England need to beat Austria and Poland next Wednesday to qualify for the finals in Germany as group winners; anything less and the Poles will go through.

That would leave Eriksson's misfiring team hoping to make it through as one of the continent's best two run ners-up or face the do-or-die lottery of a play-off "These matches are important, we

are playing for our World Cup ticket," said Eriksson "We will be ready for the play-off

but we don't want to, we want to win the group and believe we will. We have to take six points and I think if you look from the outside we should be favourites with two home games. We have to play better football. "It's been a long three and a half weeks since the Northern Ireland game.'

Beanpole striker Peter Crouch without a club goal at Liverpool this season, is set to partner Michael Owen in attack for England.

France, the champions in 1998, can qualify if they beat the Swiss in Berne but they are without first choice strikers Thierry Henry, who has a groin strain, as well as David Trezeguet who picked up a thigh injury playing for Juventus last weekend.

Liverpool's unsettled striker Djibril Cisse and Lyon's Sylvan Wiltord are the likely replacements for the Group Four match.

Zinedine Zidane, whose return from the international wilderness has reinvigorated the French, proved his fitness after a groin strain lay-off last Sunday by playing 30 minutes during Real Madrid's 4-0 win over Real Mallorca.

France are level on 16 points with

Coach Raymond Domenech admits there is no point in looking for a draw in Switzerland.

"We are going to Switzerland to win to qualify. The injuries don't do us Buffon. any favours but that's part and parcel of international football. We're confident we have enought quality in this

side to do the job," he said. Spain, currently second in Group Seven and two points behind leaders Serbia-Montenegro, go to Belgium on Saturday before closing their qualifying campaign at lowly San Marino.

Should the Spanish lose in Brussels, the Serbs can clinch the group by winning in Lithuania.

"I am not worried about facing Belgium. I get worried about things like the speed of bullets if I had to go to war," said Spain coach Luis Aragones who has recalled Arsenal's Juan Antonio Reves

Holland can wrap up Group One by taking a point off second-place Czech Republic in Prague.

The Dutch have won nine of their 10 matches but coach Marco van Basten insists his team will go for the three points.

"We will not be going for a 0-0 draw," said van Basten.

"I expect a very difficult match There is always a great team spirit with the Czechs."

Phillip Cocu is ruled out through suspension with Hamburg's Rafael van der Vart expected to take his place. In Group Two, the chase is on for the runners-up spot after Ukraine made sure of their first World Cup finals place last month.

The battle for second spot looks to favour Turkey but European champions Greece have a game in hand over their bitter rivals and can leapfrog the Turks into second spot if they beat Denmark on Saturday.

Group Three is led by Portugal, coached by Luiz Felipe Scolari, the man who took Brazil to the title in 2002

They have a five point lead over Slovakia and Russia and should be celebrating their place in the finals on Saturday night as they face hapless Liechtenstein in Aveiro

Italy, three-time champions, are five points ahead of Norway and Slovenia in Group Five with a draw

task," said the 35-year-old who will retain the number one jersey in the absence of the injured Gianluigi

Lippi's team into the finals.

threat of their rivals.

Slovenia beat Italy when they met

in Celje in October 2004 and Italy

keeper Angelo Peruzzi has warned his

team-mates not to underestimate the

Group Eight sees a straight fight between Sweden and Croatia.

The Swedes are a point ahead but the two sides clash in what should be fiery encounter in Zagreb on Saturday.

Escobar's killer set free

AFP, Bogota

The killer of Colombian footballer Andres Escobar, who was gunned down after scoring an own goal at the 1994 World Cup finals, was freed from prison on Thursday after serving 11 years of his 43-year sentence.

A judge granted 55-year-old Humberto Munoz, a former bodyguard, conditional liberty.

home to Venezuela in Belem on Munoz had admitted shooting Wednesday Escobar in a night club car park in Goalkeepers: Julio Cesar (Inter Milan), the north-east city of Medellin on Gomes (PSVEindhoven) July 2, 1994 Defenders: Cicinho (Sao Paulo), Gustavo

The defender had been confronted by a group of men following the player's own goal which had condemned Colombia to a 2-0 loss against the United States.

The result meant that the South Americans, who had arrived at the tournament as one of the favourites to win the title, were eliminated in the first round.

It was thought at the time that

Escobar had been targeted by gam-

blers or even drug traffickers but the

was criticised by the player's family.

The decision to release Munoz

"In Colombia, there is no jus-

"Colombian justice is a travesty.

tice," said the defender's father

The family was told that the guilty

man was condemned to 43 years in

prison but he is out after serving

believed that others involved in the

killing had escaped justice.

Dario Escobar added that he

link was dismissed by police.

Dario

onlv11 vears."