

## Third Eye

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right hand corner. It was a fitting comeback and it was made complete when John Aloisi dribbled past two Japanese defenders on the counter and thumped a shot past Yanagisawa in goal. It ended 3-1 although that was not a general representation of the pattern of play. Guus Hiddink wove his magic again and who is to say what his team will do this time around.

Czech Republic have made a hash of qualifying for the last two World Cup's but now that they are here they showed that they are genuine contenders with easily the best performance by a team in the World Cup so far. Their domination of play over the USA was so superior that they almost strolled to win without breaking sweat. The victory might have been tempered slightly with the injury to Jan Koller but the Czech's are definitely one to look out for come July. But most importantly, remember the name Rosicky. The newly recruited Arsenal man was the standout performer for the Czechs and he has quickly marked himself out as one of the stars of this tournament.

Not to be outdone, Italy too turned in a sterling performance to beat Ghana 2-0. The end result may have been a bit unfair to the Africans after they had made a lot of the play for most of the match. But the Italian defence as usual stood firm against pressure and kept their opponents at bay. Nesta and Cannavaro looked assured in defence and untested wingbacks Grosso and Zaccardo also did well. Andrea Pirlo turned in an eye-catching performance that was topped off by a super 25-yard strike. However Italy will have Samuel Kuffor to thank after the Roma defender played an inexplicable back pass into the path of Vincenzo Iaquinta for the Udinese forward to score his first international goal. Heartbreak for Kuffor after playing so well alongside partner Mensa. For their part, Italy looked very assured and made some intricate passing moves which might help them shed the 'catenaccio' image that has stuck to them over the past. Victory might however be soured slightly with the injury to Francesco Totti.

All in all it was a day for midfield goalscorers as Tim Cahill, Andrea Pirlo and most spectacularly Tomas Rosicky dominating the headlines.

## Philosophical

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team problem.

"It is the character of this team to play an offensive style but we should try to improve defensively now that the big opponents are waiting," he warned.

"Conceding so many goals is a problem of the team, not just the defence."



## Did U Know?

The first own-goal of the 1978 World Cup was credited to the unlucky Emy Brandts of the Netherlands for his blunder against Italy.



## Pele

(Brazilian football legend)  
"He (Ronaldinho) has a great chance to write his name into the record books, he can beat Gerd Muller's record of 14 goals."



## TEN Sports

West Indies vs India  
Second Test, Day Five  
Live at 8:00 pm



Indian legspinner Anil Kumble celebrates with teammates after dismissing West Indian opener Chris Gayle on the third day of the second Test at The Beausejour Stadium in Gros Islet on Monday.

## Rain obstructs India

Cricket

AFP, Gros Islet

India were looking to deliver the knockout punch when it rained on their parade in the second Test against West Indies on Monday at the Beausejour Cricket Ground.

After being asked to follow-on 373 runs behind from the first innings, West Indies were 43 for one in their second innings, when a torrential downpour swept across the ground with 11.3 overs remaining on the third day.

Replying to India's first innings total of 588 for eight declared, West Indies had been bowled out for 215 about 10 minutes past the scheduled tea break.

Virender Sehwag, bowling his uncomplicated off-spin, took three wickets for 33 runs from 16.1 overs to be a thorn in the side of the Windies' lower order.

Munaf Patel took three for 51 from 17 overs to undermine the home team's top order, and leg-spin bowler Anil Kumble became the fourth highest wicket-taker in Tests, when he snared three for 57 from 30 overs.

Chris Gayle hit seven fours and one six in the top score of 46 from 106 balls. He added 51 for the fourth wicket with fellow left-hander Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who scored 30.

Apart from Gayle and Chanderpaul, Denesh Ramdin gleaned 30 and Dwayne Bravo made 25 to beef up the West Indies first innings total when they added 61 for the sixth wicket.

Following on, West Indies suffered an immediate setback when Gayle was caught behind off Irfan Pathan for two with the third ball of the innings, driving lazily at a delivery moving away outside the off-stump.

West Indies captain Brian Lara came to the wicket and defied the Indian attack with every fibre of his being to reach 15 and compatriot Daren Ganga showed similar resilience to get to 24 before the weather interrupted.

Earlier, India had removed Gayle and Chanderpaul in the first hour to maintain their stranglehold on the Test.

West Indies looked to be making a fist of it when Gayle and Chanderpaul battled through the first 45 minutes with little trouble.

Gayle had the joy of swatting Kumble over mid-wicket for a six about 10 rows into the stand, but the champion Indian leg-spinner gained his pound of flesh with his next delivery.

Gayle, playing back, instead of forward, groped at a delivery that spun across him and was pounced by the wicketkeeper to become Kumble's 519th Test wicket -- drawing him level with Gayle's Jamaican compatriot Courtney Walsh -- as the fourth highest wicket-taker in Tests.

Pathan added further agony when he deceived Chanderpaul with a slower, in-swinging delivery, and had him adjudged lbw in the next over.

Bravo and Ramdin carried West Indies through to 139 for five at the interval, but the home team offered only token resistance at lunch.

Kumble made the breakthrough about 45 minutes after the interval when he had Bravo caught at slip edging a back-foot drive for his 520th Test scalp that placed him behind Australia's Shane Warne (685), Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralidaran (624), and another Aussie Glenn McGrath (542) on the list of leading Test bowlers.

Three overs later, Patel struck when he removed Ramdin, caught behind edging a drive, and though Jerome Taylor with 23 and Ian Bradshaw with 20 defied the Indians towards the end, it was only a matter of time before the inevitable took place.

West Indies lost their last three wickets for five runs in the space of 57 balls.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the second Test between West Indies and India at the Beausejour Cricket Ground on Monday:

## WC BRIEFS

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Around Poland, where some 90 percent of the population are Catholic, masses are being said for the team and coach Pawel Janas, derided in the press after the Ecuador debacle.

Ordinary Poles and clerics, including Cardinal Henryk Gulbinowicz, have said private prayers for the team.

"When I was at Jasna Gora, I prayed that our players would win. I'm with them with all my heart," Gulbinowicz told mass circulation tabloid, Super Express.

Jasna Gora, in the southern town of Czestochowa, is home to Poland's most sacred place, the shrine of the Black Madonna, believed to have miraculous powers.

Super Express said it has "commissioned" two masses for the national squad in the hope of "transforming a duck into an eagle" so that the World Cup won't be over for us tomorrow.

## Million on the mile

More than one million fans from all over the world have walked the Fan-Mile in central Berlin, the place to be for supporters without tickets around the Brandenburg Gate.

Fans can watch games on giant screens and countless groups from all participating nations have been joining in the fun, snapping up souvenirs and downing sausages,

burgers and beer as they enjoy the occasion and the hot weather.

## Listen to your body

With the weather having been sticky in the first few days of the tournament doctors are warning fans to drink enough water and not to shout too much.

Professor Carsten Stick of the Institute for Climatological Medicine at Kiel University says that "if you shout too much you risk fainting when you breathe too quickly and too deeply."

His advice: "Listen to what your body is telling you."

## The size matters

Four Swiss-based Argentina fans and four friends from Puerto Esperanza (Cape of Good Hope) have brought an 80-kilo flag to the World Cup. But the 50 by 22-metres flag can't be taken to the stadium as the official limit such fan accoutrements is three-by-one metres.

## Royal rewards

The president of the Saudi Football Federation Sultan bin Fahad bin Abdul Aziz is offering rich rewards to motivate the rank outsiders at the World Cup ahead of their opener against Tunisia in Munich on Tuesday.

Each man will receive 100,000 dollars in the event of a win.

In 1994, the squad were hailed as heroes after reaching the second round.

INDIA: First innings 588 for eight declared (Sehwag 180, Kaif 148 not out, Dravid 146)

WEST INDIES: First innings (over-

night 65 for 3)

Gayle c Dhoni b Kumble 46

Ganga lbw b Patel 16

Sarwan lbw b Patel 0

Lara lbw b Kumble 7

Chanderpaul lbw b Pathan 30

Bravo c David b Kumble 25

Ramdin c Dhoni b Patel 30

Bradshaw c and b Sehwag 20

Taylor c Kaif b Sehwag 23

Collins c David b Sehwag 0

Collymore not out 2

Extras (b-5, lb-2, nb-9) 16

Total: (All out in 85.1 overs) 215

Fall of wickets: 1-36, 2-36, 3-55, 4-

106, 5-106, 6-167, 7-178, 8-209, 9-

210

Bowler O M R W

Pathan 11 2 43 1

Patel 17 4 51 3

Kumble 30 12 57 3

V Singh 10 3 23 0

Sehwag 16 1 5 33 3

Yuvraj 1 0 1 0

WEST INDIES: Second innings

Gayle c Dhoni b Pathan 2

Ganga not out 24

Lara not out 15

Extras (nb-2) 2

Total: (For 1 wkt in 17.3 overs) 43

Fall of wicket: 1-2

Bowler O M R W

Pathan 7 1 23 1

Patel 5 4 4 0

V Singh 3 0 9 0

Kumble 2 0 7 0

Sehwag 0.3 0 0 0

## Marcus whacks neighbours

AFP, Belfast

Marcus Trescothick hit a superb 113 as England ran up a total of 301-7 in their 50 overs in the inaugural one-day international against Ireland here on Tuesday.

Left-hander Trescothick struck 14 boundaries in an elegant innings after England won the toss and opted to bat.

But fellow opener Ed Joyce, making his England debut against an Ireland side that included his brother Dominick, did not have such a happy morning.

The Dublin-born Middlesex batsman had made just 10 when he attempted to pull seamer David Langford-Smith and presented Kevin O'Brien with a straightforward catch at mid-wicket.

Joyce's departure triggered a mini-collapse with England losing both stand-in captain Andrew Strauss (4) and Paul Collingwood (10) cheaply as they struggled to 92-3 after 14 overs.

But a determined display by Warwickshire batsman Ian Bell (80) and Trescothick's increasingly fluent got the visitors back on track and ensured Ireland were set a tough target to win the match.

Ireland have been granted full international status for a two-year period after qualifying for the 2007 World Cup in the West Indies.

## Don't blame the sun



AP, Buehlertal

They won, 1-0, and that's what counts. England was also sapped by the sun and struggling against Paraguay, and that's the last thing it wants against its next opponent -- twin-island upstart Trinidad and Tobago, which played Sweden to a stunning 0-0 draw.

"You can't roll over teams like Trinidad," midfielder Joe Cole said Sunday. "They showed yesterday that they can compete against Sweden. ... To get the start we did was marvelous."

And a gift.

Without even scoring a goal, England won its Group C opener when Paraguay captain Carlos Camarra inadvertently headed in captain David Beckham's curling free kick less than three minutes into Saturday's match.

That exhilarating start, which surely delighted Prince William, who made the trip to Frankfurt, fell apart fast when the team wilted in the 86-degree heat.

Some players sweated off nearly 10 pounds, even though team officials provided nearly three times as much water as usual during the match.

By the second half, England's normally aggressive, physical game was in the tank.

"I'm not worried we faded," Beckham said. "Our performance was totally down to the heat. You can't go into a game like that and expect to be playing 100 percent all through the game."

"The important thing is that we

have got off to a good start and that's what we have to be happy with. It's not often we are in this position after the first game."

And they might get star striker Wayne Rooney back for the T&T game. Coach Sven Goran-Eriksson said Sunday night he was "optimistic" that Rooney could play Thursday.

Rooney has been sidelined for six weeks with a broken foot.

Cole was concerned that his teammates were waved away from getting water on the sideline by game officials. It wasn't clear whether the same thing happened to Paraguay players.

"There was a couple of times when you went over to ... try and get a drink, and for some reason they didn't want us to," he said. "I don't know too much about that, but I think it's important in those conditions to be drinking regularly."

"Without sounding like we're making excuses -- we won the game -- but I think the conditions played a massive part," he said.

England director of communications Adrian Bevington said the team's medical staff was also concerned. England went through 148 pints of water during the match; it normally goes through 42.

"It's important that FIFA and the referees take into account that players are getting dehydrated, and if there's a break in play, or it's a goal kick or a corner or a throw-in, that the referee just factors in an extra second or two so the players can get a quick intake of water," Bevington said.

FIFA said it encouraged players to drink fluids.

Cole said the weather was hotter for the opener than it was for the games England played at the 2002 World Cup in Japan and the 2004 European Championship in

Portugal.

England plays Trinidad and Tobago at 6 p.m. local time on Thursday and Sweden at 9 p.m. on June 20.

The forecast for the next game calls for a high temperature of 64 degrees and a 60 percent chance of showers.

"Once that heat dies down it will help us," Beckham said.

But England can't place all the blame on the heat.

Forward Michael Owen failed to fire, his lack of match fitness highlighted when he was replaced in the 65th minute. It's the first time Eriksson -- in charge for 5 1/2 years -- has ever substituted Owen for reasons other than injury.

"It's obviously a tactical thing," said Cole, who played second striker behind Peter Crouch when Owen was taken off. "We needed someone to try to get onto the ball and try and probe a few passes. The boss knows I can do it. And it gives us another option, which is what it's all about. I was happy that I got that kind of responsibility."

Using Cole highlights the holes in England's offense. Its other strikers are Rooney and untested 17-year-old Theo Walcott. When Cole went out, Eriksson sent out winger Stewart Downing, even though Walcott was warming up.

Cole said Owen, who only returned last month after breaking his foot on Dec. 31, didn't need to prove himself.

"I think he'll score lots of goals this tournament," he said.

After Trinidad and Tobago's rousing draw with Sweden, England knows it has to improve.

"It shows that football's changed over the last 20 years," Cole said. "You can't roll over teams like Trinidad."

## Relief for hosts

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countries. I have not quite lost my Polish heart."

Poland scouts will be asking themselves how the duo slipped through the net and ended up representing old foes Germany.

Coach Pawel Janas admits Germany's attack is a concern but felt their leaky defence was a cause for optimism.

"They are a dangerous team when they attack and they score a lot of goals but the defence is not as good," Janas said.

Legendary Polish striker Zbigniew Boniek, part of the team that finished third at the 1982 World Cup, agreed.

"Any team with an intelligent player that can thread a pass between the centre-backs will have a lot of joy against Germany," Boniek declared.

Poland's star striker Ebi Smolarek, playing on the ground where he plays for club side Borussia Dortmund, will hope to prosper against the suspect German defence, but will be

shackled by his club team-mate Christoph Metzelder.

Poland and Germany have met twice in the World Cup and the latter holds the upper hand.

At the 1974 World Cup hosts West Germany defeated Poland 1-0 in Frankfurt as they went on to lift the title.

Four years later in Argentina the two nations met again and the game finished 0-0.

In 14 meetings Germany have never lost against Poland -- winning ten and drawing the other four -- and Germany have also never tasted defeat in Dortmund.

Poland coach Pawel Janas is understandably a worried man.

Defeat against Ecuador led to calls from officials and former players and coaches to switch back from a five-man midfield to the 4-4-2 formation used in qualifying.

Janas has confirmed that he will make changes for the Germany game, although he has refused to give details.

Ebi Smolarek, though, is keeping a positive outlook.

"There is a very easy way to get out of the group -- we beat Germany," he said. "It will be hard but for sure it's possible to win. The return of Ballack will have a big impact for the Germans but they are not unbeatable."

## Things going

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Ghana coach Ratomir Djukovic was upset with his team's failure to contain Italy's thrusts down the left flank.

"We had lots of problems down that side, time after time," he said.

Djukovic insisted Ghana, appearing at their first World Cup, could overcome their bad start.

"I still believe we can pass through the group stage," said the Serb whose side next face the Czech Republic, 3-0 winners over the United States in the day's early match.

## BITS AND BOBS



## Baros worried

INTERNET, undated

Czech Republic striker Milan Baros fears he may miss the entire World Cup with a foot injury.

The Aston Villa hit-man admits the injury is still bothering him, and he said: "Of course I am worried I will miss the tournament."

"You see all these big games and you want to play in them."

"This is the first time we have qualified for the World Cup in 16 years and I want to be involved."

"But my health is the most important thing. I do not want to be out for a year just because I have had an injection to try to get me through."

"The problem is with the inside of my foot. It hurts when I move and it is not good."

## Vidic's WC over

REUTERS, Billerbeck

Serbia & Montenegro defender Nemanja Vidic will miss the rest of the World Cup after picking up a knee injury in training, a team official said on Tuesday.

"Unfortunately, our centre back Nemanja Vidic is out for the rest of the tournament after sustaining a serious knee injury in Monday's training," said team spokesman Aleksandar Boskovic.

"A detailed medical check up established damage to his left knee ligaments and he will be sidelined for several weeks at least," he told reporters.

Vidic, who was due to return to the lineup after for the Group C match against Argentina on Friday after suspension, was injured after sliding to collect a loose ball. He was carried off the training pitch in a lot of pain.

The Manchester United defender was suspended for Serbia

& Montenegro's opening 1-0 defeat by the Netherlands on Sunday.

## 'Robben too selfish'

INTERNET, undated

Holland striker Robin van Persie has launched an amazing attack on team-mate Arjen Robben.

The Arsenal striker set-up Robben for the only goal of the game in the win over Serbia & Montenegro at the weejeend.

However, he has now accused Robben of being too selfish during the game.

"He needs to take his teammates into account," Van Persie said. "Sometimes he makes choices that are good for him and not for the team."

"We need to realise we are in this together. We had several chances against Serbia but against the really big countries you maybe get one chance."

The Dutch camp has been famous for infighting at major tournaments over the years and it appears that the 2006 World Cup may be no exception.

## Bogus cops!

REUTERS, Frankfurt

Frankfurt police have urged soccer fans attending World Cup games in the city to be wary of bogus police officers attempting to steal cash and passports. Police handed out leaflets to fans outside the Waldstadion before South Korea's clash with Togo on Tuesday urging fans to be vigilant.

"Over the past few weeks, the Frankfurt police have seen an increase in the number of cases reported of thieves posing as plain clothes police officers," police stated in the leaflet, which was printed in eight different languages. Fans were advised that German