



Spain strengthened their claim to be regarded among the best international teams ever after becoming the first nation to win back-to-back European Championships - either side of their 2010 World Cup triumph.



SCANDAL

Lance Armstrong was stripped of his 7 Tour de France titles after the US Anti-Doping Agency released an extensive report accusing the cyclist of doping.



NEW RECORD

Sebastian Vettel, the 25-year-old German, won the Formula One World Championship driving his Red Bull-Renault thus becoming the youngest triple champion in the history of the sport.



PUNTER'S FAREWELL

Ricky Ponting, the Australian batting legend, bid adieu to international cricket after a stellar 18-year career.



INJURY HORROR

Mark Boucher, South Africa's wicketkeeper, suffered a lacerated left eye after a ball struck him; forced to retire, Boucher finished with 999 international dismissals.



DROGBA SPECIAL

Didier Drogba led Chelsea to their maiden Champions League glory. The veteran striker scored the vital equalising goal with a few minutes left on the clock and also netted the winning penalty in the tie-breaker against Bayern Munich at the Allianz Arena.



MILESTONE

Sachin Tendulkar, the Indian batting maestro scored his hundredth 100 in international cricket during the Asia Cup match against Bangladesh. Sachin also announced his



BREAKTHROUGH
Andy Murray ended Great Britain's 76 year wait for a Grand Slam championship by lifting the US Open with a hard fought, five set victory over world number 1 Novak Djokovic. Murray also claimed gold by defeating Federer.



ACHIEVEMENT EXTREME



Felix Baumgartner, Austrian skydiver, daredevil and BASE jumper, became world famous after jumping from a world record 39 kilometres (24 miles), reaching an estimated speed of 1,342 kilometres per hour (834 mph), or Mach 1.24, becoming the first person to break the sound barrier without vehicular



KING OF GOALS

Lionel Messi, Barcelona's Argentine superstar, scored 91 goals in the calendar year for club and country breaking Gerd Mueller's 40-year-old record of 85 goals for Bayern Munich and