

Cahill deserves a knighthood

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As Cahill scored a ridiculous first-time volley from a 40 yard pass, only a minute after the Netherlands put their own into the back of the net, time stood still — people still trying to comprehend what they'd just seen — before the stadium erupted with the deafening cheers of Aussie fans.

In that moment, Australia was inspired with hope that their team could really give the Dutch a run for their money, and Cahill was the hero of the moment, a triumph soon emphasised by a superb Mile Jedinak penalty.

But while Cahill's goal will go down as one of the best of the tournament and live in the memory of Australian fans for many years to come, there are many more reasons to award him a knighthood.

According to the Order of Australia, a knighthood or damehood is awarded for "extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia or humanity at large."

So, if Tony Abbott's so keen to bring back the knights and dames, why not nominate Timmy Cahill?

Cahill is Australia's top World Cup goal scorer, being the only Aussie to have scored in more than one World Cup. Cahill has in fact scored in three World Cup tournaments, with a total of five goals. Australia will play Spain in their final game without Cahill after he picked up his second yellow card of the tournament.

The Australian newspaper said the Socceroos outplayed, out-thought and out-ran the Dutch for large parts of the game.

Once again, Tim Cahill was a hero for the Socceroos, scoring his fifth World Cup goal and surely etching his name as the country's greatest player of all time," the newspaper said.

Social media was abuzz, with Cahill the centre of Twitter attention.

"Tim Cahill has now scored more World Cup goals (5) than Cristiano Ronaldo, Lionel Messi and Wayne Rooney combined (4)," tweeted one Australian fan.

"The last time we'll see Tim Cahill at a World Cup, Thank you, now without a shadow of a doubt, our greatest," said another.

He is also renowned for being down-to-earth, especially when meeting fans of all ages, and is always happy to give autographs and chat to people.



PHOTO: REUTERS

মানসম্পন্ন বাংলাদেশী পণ্যের ব্যবহার
শিল্প বিকাশে সহায়ক

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ITALY V COSTA RICA**Azzurri wary of tropical terror**

AFP, Natal

Italy look to reach the World Cup last 16 with victory over giant-killers Costa Rica on Friday but the four-time champions are wary of Recife's tropical conditions.

Tough-tackling Roma midfielder Daniele De Rossi has underlined Costa Rica's likely advantage in the sweltering conditions in Recife, where he said Italy were 'dying' from the heat' last year during the Confederations Cup.

Having made a blistering start to what is only their fourth World Cup campaign with a shock 3-1 win over Uruguay, the 'Ticos' will be forgiven for keeping the pace high from kick-off as they go in search of another upset.

"Italy have great players like (Mario) Balotelli and (Andrea) Pirlo, who controls all of their play, and we have a lot of respect for them," said FC Copenhagen midfielder Christian Bolanos.

"But we'll hope to benefit from the heavy climate. We are used to playing in those kinds of temperatures."

Italy, who crashed out at the group stage in 2010, launched their bid for a record-equaling fifth title with a crucial 2-1 win over England in Manaus last week in their Group D opener.

But the four-time champions were given notice following Costa Rica's shock win over 2010 semi-finalists Uruguay that a match they would have been widely expected to dominate may be more difficult than first imagined.

GPH GPH ispat

BRAZILIAN BAURU

AFP, Fortaleza

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