

# BATE loses but retains hope for great victories in the future

BATE Borisov defeated again (2:4) by Spanish Valencia in Champions League return match, hosted by Valencia's Mestalla Stadium, in fourth round of group stage

By Dmitry Baranovsky

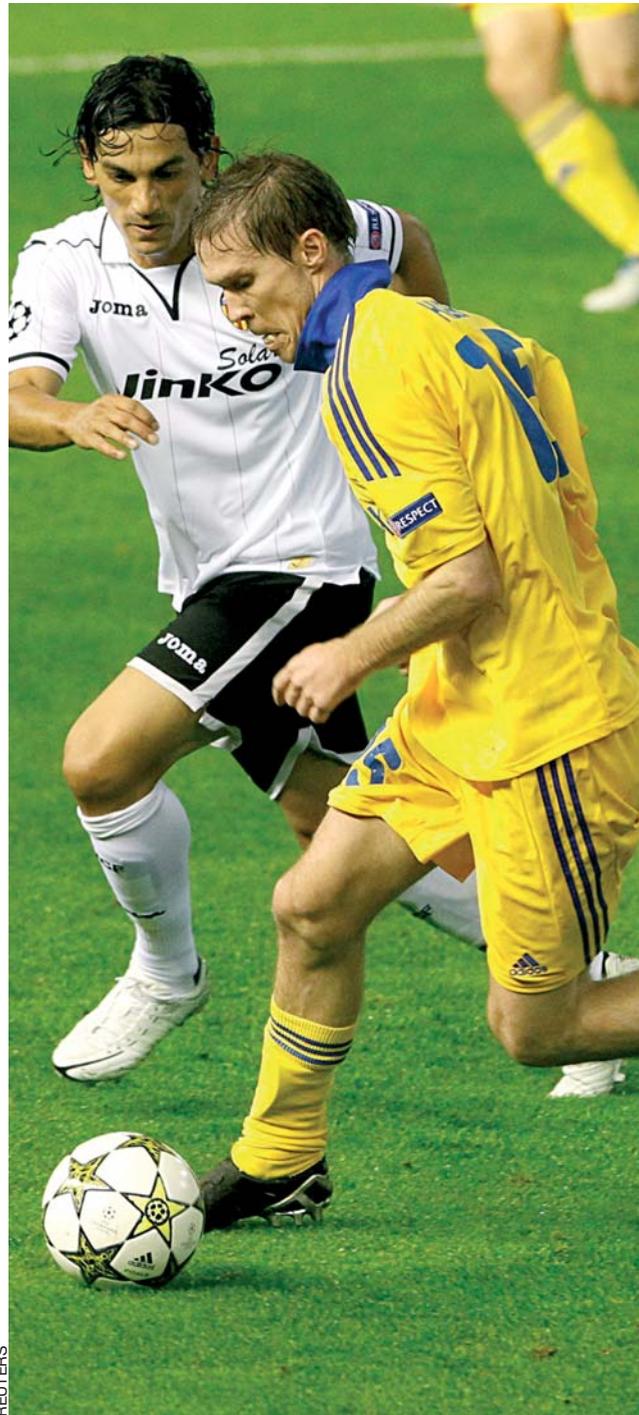
The game began in the rain, which didn't promise sparkling football. Despite the weather, the dominance of the hosts was apparent by the middle of the first half, when BATE goalkeeper Andrey Gorbunov's goal was under repeated attack. Valencia, which played well in the Spain Championship earlier this year, was clearly keen to create a solid victory. Jonas scored in the 26th minute, after a defender's mistake, and a second goal came three minutes later, when Roberto Soldado real-

ised a penalty kick (awarded for Artem Radkov's foul in the penalty area).

After halftime, Algerian Sofiane Feghouli scored Spain's third devastating goal in the 51st minute, ending all Borisov's hopes with his precise kick. Nevertheless, the Belarusians refused to surrender and, within a couple of minutes, Renan Bressan had scored from the penalty area. Seven minutes from the end, Dmitry Mozolevsky took advantage of a gap in Spain's defence to score BATE's second goal. Alas, any hopes were soon crushed, with Feghouli scor-

ing his team's fourth goal before the final whistle. The previous meeting at Minsk's Dynamo Stadium had finished with Valencia's flawless win of 3:0.

BATE half-back Renan Bressan believes that the Borisov squad still has a chance of holding its head high. He muses, "We did well to score a couple of times in Spain but, unfortunately, made too many mistakes. There was no hope that a strong team like Valencia would let us get away with those. However, we can still fight on. BATE lost to a truly worthy rival and will next face a vital



Alexander Gleb (foreground)

match against Lille. We'd like to win, achieving success in Munich, before leaving the group."

After four matches, BATE occupies third position in Group F, behind Valencia and Bayern by three points.

## Silver at Grand Prix

By Igor Leshin

**Arina Sharapa claims silver at artistic gymnastics competition in Czech Republic**

Belarusian Arina Sharapa has taken silver at the artistic gymnastics championships (Grand Prix series) in Czech Brno, earning 106.306 points. Gold went to Russian Darya Dmitrieva — who also did well at the London Olympics (118.815 points) while Czech Monika Mikova claimed bronze (105.307).

Moreover, Sharapa came second in her exercise with the hoop (26.724), with the clubs (26.550) and the ribbon (27.099). She finished fifth in her exercise with the ball (25.933) while Dmitrieva took gold in all four finals.

## Among real contenders

**Sergey Platonov aiming to become 'Top Athlete of the Month'**

After October's events, the European Athletics nominees for the title of 'Top Athlete of the Month' include Sergey Platonov, 21, of Mogilev. Contenders represent 14 countries. Sergey is one of the most talented runners on the continent, being Belarus' cross country champion for three years in a row and a major contender for the title of European Junior Cross Country Champion.

## Thirteen medals from Ankara

By Igor Grishin

**Belarusian national team does well at WAKO European Kickboxing Championship**

The Belarusian national martial arts team has won 3 gold, 3 silver and 7 bronze awards, under head coach Mikhail Stepanov. The event in Ankara brought together around 600 athletes from 37 states, battling to win K-1, light contact and low kick disciplines. Alexey Bliznev, Artur Isayants and Yuri Zhukovsky took gold in the K-1 category while Yevgeny Telitsa was awarded silver. Timur Burrov, Sergey Bokhanov and Dmitry Baranov claimed bronze. Denis Telitsa and Andrey Khomenok came second in the low kick and Yuri Volynets and Yevgeny Makarov finished third. Among the women, Lyudmila Chislova and Yelena Muratova took K-1 bronze.

## Not much room in the ring



A bout from Belarus Boxing Championship heavyweight event

By Vladimir Dmitriev

**Belarusian capital hosts Belarusian Boxing Championship, bringing together country's best fighters for important selection stage of European Championship, alongside coaches and referees**

The news of hosting next year's top European boxing tournament is certainly reason for joy, notes Dmitry Tikhomolov, the Chairman of the Belarusian Boxing Fed-

eration. Naturally, our boxers are eager to fight successfully in front of fans. However, their performance at the Olympic Games in London and at the preceding World Championship suggest that some refinement is needed. Fortunately, their results at the recent Minsk event signal potential for improvement.

Belarus' 2010 champion, Sergey Loban (52kg) lost to young Dmitry Strigelsky, while European champion Sergey Kunitsyn was obliged to withdraw due to illness,

leaving the path clear for Ivan Baranchik (under 60kg). Meanwhile, Leonid Chernobayev (under 91kg), who caused a furore last year, was left without any title. Yevgeny Romashkevich (under 69kg), a prize winner of the European Championship, had to be content with bronze. The acting head coach of the Belarusian team, Yuri Chuiko, emphasises that those disappointed with their performance have the opportunity to make up for this at forthcoming events.

## Juniors don't lag behind masters

**Belarusian sabre fencer Darya Andreeva earns bronze at Golden Gate international fencing tournament**



Belarusian Darya Andreeva has won bronze at the Golden Gate international fencing tournament — part of the Junior World Cup. Reaching the finals without defeat, she then lost to Ukrainian Alina Komashchuk — 10:15. Belarusian Polina Kasperovich finished a less impressive 18th while Darya Maximenko came 39th. Among the men, Mikhail Akulo came 21st. Yelena Pilipchuk took 46th place in the final standings for epee fencers.