

## Seventh doubles title

**Olga Govortsova and Chia-Jung Chuang win major tennis tournament in USA's New Haven**

Seeded under number three, the Belarusian-Taiwanese duo defeated Italian Sara Errani and Roberta Vinci 7:5, 6:2 in just an hour and a half. The pair reached the finals after defeating Eleni Daniilidou and Polona Hercog (Slovenia), Iveta Benesova (Czech Republic) and Alexandra Dulgheru (Romania), and Natalie Grandin (SAR) and Vladimira Uhlirova (Czech Republic).

Govortsova, who turned 23 not long ago, has now won seven doubles titles. This is her second with Chuang (the first being won in Beijing in 2010). She has reached the WTA doubles finals nine times and is ranked 26th in the doubles ratings.

# Preserving medal traditions

**Belarusian athletes win two medals at IAAF World Athletics Championships in South Korean Daegu**

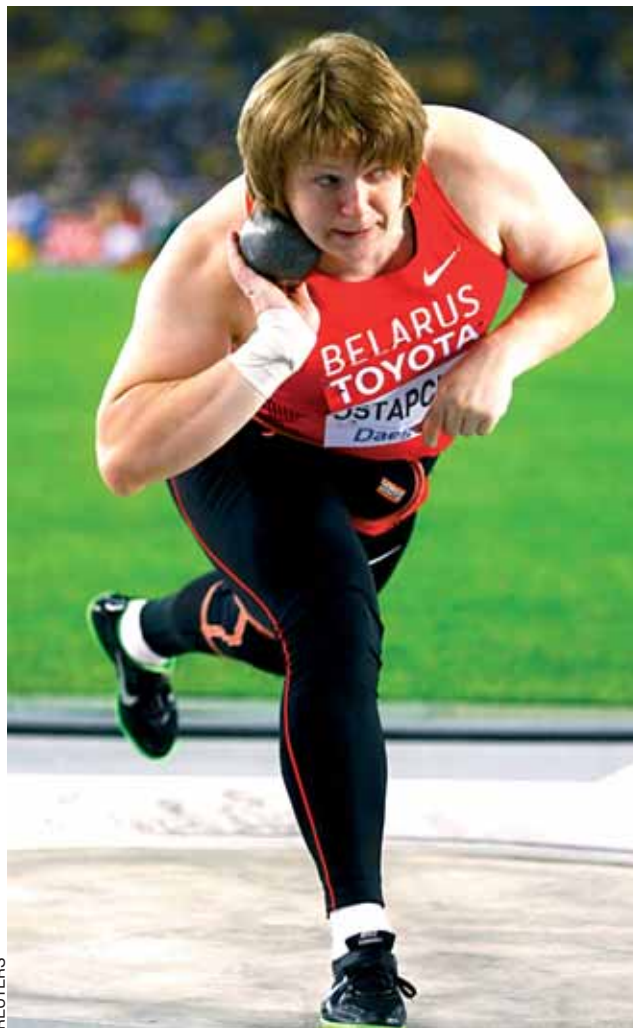
By Yuri Karpenko

Nadezhda Ostapchuk earned silver in the women's shot putt, with a throw of 20.05m, losing only to Valerie Adams of New Zealand, who demonstrated 21.24m. Bronze went to Jillian Camarena-Williams of the USA.

Belarusian Andrey Mikhnevich took bronze in the same discipline, throwing the shot 21.40m in his best

(third) attempt. German David Storl (21) became world champion, reaching 21.78m in his final (sixth) attempt, beating prominent Canadian Dylan Armstrong (21.64m), who was awarded silver.

Previously, Andrey Mikhnevich has won medals twice at the World Championship: gold in Paris in 2003 and bronze in Osaka in 2007. He also came third at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.



'Silver' attempt by Nadezhda Ostapchuk

## Doubtless superiority

**Belarusian athletes perform brilliantly both in team and individual events at European Water Ski Championship**

In Skarnes, Norway, our athletes earned seven medals (four gold, one silver and two bronze). Natalia Berdnikova was the star of the championship, winning in two disciplines: the all-round and trampoline jumping. She was also placed third in figure skiing. Berdnikova captured the championship title well before the end of the tournament, as no other female athlete was able to demonstrate such high results across all three events. Another Belarusian, Irina Turets, took silver for her jumping and came fifth in the all-round.

Among the men, acting world champion and record-setter Alexey Zhernosek preserved his reputation in figure skating while Oleg Devyatovsky narrowly missed out on a bronze medal. Pleasingly, he came third overall in the championship. Belarus brought home the team gold, based on the results of three exercises: the slalom, figure skiing and trampoline jumping. They defeated the strong teams of France and the Czech Republic.

## Sergey Lyakhovich defeated by Robert Helenius

**Belarusian super heavy weight, former world WBA champion, is knocked down by Finnish Helenius in German Erfurt**

The match against 'The Nordic Nightmare' (Helenius' nickname) was tough for our 'White Wolf'. The Belarusian, 35, faced the huge Finnish boxer as an equal for seven rounds, despite a damaged nose in the second round. However, in the eighth, Helenius snatched the initiative to knock down Sergey; after a series of powerful blows, he dropped to his knees.

He managed to recover and continue the round, but the ninth put an end to the dynamic match. Lyakhovich was the first to attack, connecting some formidable punches, but these had no effect on his rival. A left uppercut from the Finn was followed by a series of blows, leading to the referee ending the fight. Sergey's nose was later discovered to be broken in two places. Experts are calling the match the best in the super weight category of the past five years. In fact, over his last six matches, Helenius has beaten three former world champions: Sergey Lyakhovich, Samuel Peter and Lamon Brewster.

# Zvezda to play at Santiago Bernabeu

By Kirill Karin

**Young footballers from Minsk squad win Belarusian stage of Danone Nations Cup**

At the Olimpiysky Arena, Vladimir Pigulevsky's trainees defeated Neman Grodno 2:0, battling for first position, gaining a place in the finals of the

unofficial world children's championship (for 10-12 year olds). The future stars of Belarusian football shall join their peers from 40 countries in matches played at Real Madrid's legendary Santiago Bernabeu Stadium in early October.

Our promising Belarusian football stars are taking part in this grand

event, which is being sponsored by the Belarusian Football Federation, for the first time.

The head coach of the Belarusian national football team, Bernd Stange, has been appointed ambassador of the Belarusian stage of the tournament. With his assistant Harald Irmscher, he gave master

classes to the young players. In addition, the head coach invited them to attend another Euro-2012 qualification match against Bosnia and Herzegovina, to be held at Minsk's Dynamo Stadium.

The Danone Nations Cup dates back to 2000: since then, 20 million football hopefuls have taken

part in this unique sporting event. Leading football associations, including FIFA and UEFA, have praised the competition, which was this year presided over by the major ambassador to the world finals, famous French footballer Zinedine Zidane. He'll present awards to the winners on October 9th.

## Step backwards during almost equal game

**National football team of Belarus loses 0:2 in home match against Bosnia and Herzegovina, creating true struggle for second place in its qualifying group for 2012 UEFA European Football Championship**

By Yuri Kovalev

On the eve of the match, much was said of the decisive nature of the game for both teams. Both viewed the match seriously, although with different approaches. The Belarusians preferred to play in an impulsive manner, going on the attack immediately, while their rivals took a more calculated approach, using every mistake to their advantage. Belarus soon found itself two goals down, significantly complicating its aim of

reaching the final stage of UEFA Euro-2012.

Heavy rain fell for two hours beforehand, slightly damaging the Minsk Dynamo Stadium pitch but not enough to force a cancellation. Initially, the initiative was on our side, with the Belarusian squad setting up several potential goals. However, they failed to see these through, with their rivals defending well.

In the 22nd minute, a modest kick into the penalty area became a struggle between Edin Džeko and



Belarus' match with Bosnia and Herzegovina squad witnesses wealth of tense moments

Maxim Zhavnerchik. The latter violated the rules, allowing Sejad Salihović a perfect 11m kick, opening the score. The routine was repeated again later, with Haris Medunjanin hitting the back of the net following a corner. Nevertheless, the Belarusians didn't lose

heart, continuing to seek ways into Kenan Hasagić's goal. They attacked until the final whistle, without luck.

The Belarusian squad still has the chance to take second place in its group, reaching the European Championship's next stage,

but needs to win its next two away matches — against Bosnia and Romania. The team at the top of the group will qualify automatically. The team placed second will, in turn, enjoy play-off matches with a rival placed second in another qualifying group.