

Malaysia to stage cricket tourney before Games

Star Sport Monitor  
Malaysia has planned to stage a four-nation cricket tournament ahead of the Commonwealth Games in September, according to an announcement of the Malaysian Cricket Association (MCA).

MCA president Imran Tunku Ja'aafar said the tournament was likely to be held in July to coincide with the World Super 8 tournament to test the competition venues and tournament officials, but he did not disclose the name of the participating nations.

A curator from Sri Lanka and a turf consultant from New Zealand were helping to maintain the grounds until the kick-off of the Commonwealth Games, scheduled from September 11 to 21.

Sixteen nations are expected to participate in the cricket competition. Malaysia have received confirmation from seven Test countries — Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe — and seven non-Test countries — Bangladesh, Barbados, Canada, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya and Scotland. Guyana have withdrawn from competition. Games organisers were searching for a suitable replacement, said Ja'aafar.

### Warne's shoulder not that serious

MELBOURNE, May 2 (Sydney Morning Herald): Top Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne may be away from cricket for only a short time, after examinations of his injured shoulder produced much better results than expected.

Victorian cricket operations manager Shaun Graf said Warne had consultations on Thursday and the day after on his right shoulder, which was very sore after a tough tour of India and Sharjah.

It was feared Warne might need the ligaments in the joint tightened by surgery, meaning several months of rehabilitation and his withdrawal from the tour of Pakistan in September and October.

Warne met with his physiotherapist and specialist, who are expected to make a final decision on how his shoulder will be treated early next week.

It's certainly nowhere near as bad as was first thought — still, it looks at this stage as though he'll need a fair bit of rehabilitation," Graf said.

There will be a bit of rest involved, whatever happens. From what I've heard, if he does go in for surgery, it will be exploratory — a bit of a clean-up.

The worst case would have been having the ligaments tightened, which is fairly major and involves a lot of rehabilitation — six to eight months."

Australia defend the Ashes against England in November to January.

### Kaiserslautern's icing on the cake

BERLIN, May 2: FC Kaiserslautern made German soccer history Saturday with a 3-0 victory over VFL Wolfsburg, becoming the first team ever to rise from the second division to the Bundesliga title the next season, reports AP.

Bayern Munich struggled to a 0-0 draw at MSV Duisburg, leaving the 14-time German champions five points back of Kaiserslautern heading into next Saturday's final round.

The title was the fourth in Kaiserslautern history, but the team had been relegated in 1996 before regaining the First Division last season.

Olef Marschall, who has provided most of the heroics during Kaiserslautern's stretch run, fired goals in the 23rd and 55 minutes to lead his team.

The lanky 32-year-old veteran collected six goals in Kaiserslautern's last three matches as Kaiserslautern held off Munich, who had closed to one point.

### SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

FIND THE KILLING OPENING LEAD (Hand # 28)

North	♦S: AQJ10X8
West	♦S: XX
	♦H: A9X
	♦D: 10XXX
	♦C: XXX
East (D)	♦S: X
	♦H: QXX
	♦D: KQ
	♦C: AQ109XXX
South	♦S: KXXX
	♦H: K10X
	♦D: 9XXX
	♦C: KJ

#### BIDDING

South	West	North	East
-	-	-	2C*
Pass	Pass	4S	Pass
2S**	Pass	5S	Pass
Pass	5C	5S	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

\* Club suit  
\*\* Artificial; 10-12 HCP

With a powerful Spade suit North jumped to 4 Spades when partner showed 10-12 HCP in response to his double of East's opening bid of 2 Clubs. However, West bid 5 Clubs but North persisted on to 5 Spades.

#### THE PLAY

West could beat the contract by opening a Diamond, but with a Club lead the declarer was able to slap a Diamond on Club K. At the 6th trick a small Heart was played from dummy and the 10 from the closed hand restricted the Heart loser to one. Five Spades were made because the opponents failed to find the killing lead of a Diamond.

### Chile 1962 World Cup

## Brazil retain the title

Tawfiq Aziz Khan

What was expected to be a soccer feast, a showpiece for football artistry, turned out to be a defence-ridged scrap where the fear of failure dominated and on-field violence was the norm. The pressure on the teams in the early stages had become too great, and some of the scenes televised to millions of viewers around the world warranted an 'X' rating. Brazil deservedly retained the trophy.

In Group 3 at the coastal resort of Vina del Mar, Pele treated the meagre crowd to

— Source: Football Chronicle.



Zito (19) heads Brazil's second goal in the World Cup final in Santiago. — Star file photo

but rarely reached the heights of 1958, and it was sad that injury deprived the fans of Pele for all but their first two matches. The other master of the game Alfredo di Stefano of Spain was unable to play at all.

The Spain-Brazil match turned out to be one of the highlights of the tournament. Aging Hungarian exile Puskas was playing well and gave Spain the lead but two fine goals by the 22-year-old Amarildo saw the elimination of Spain.

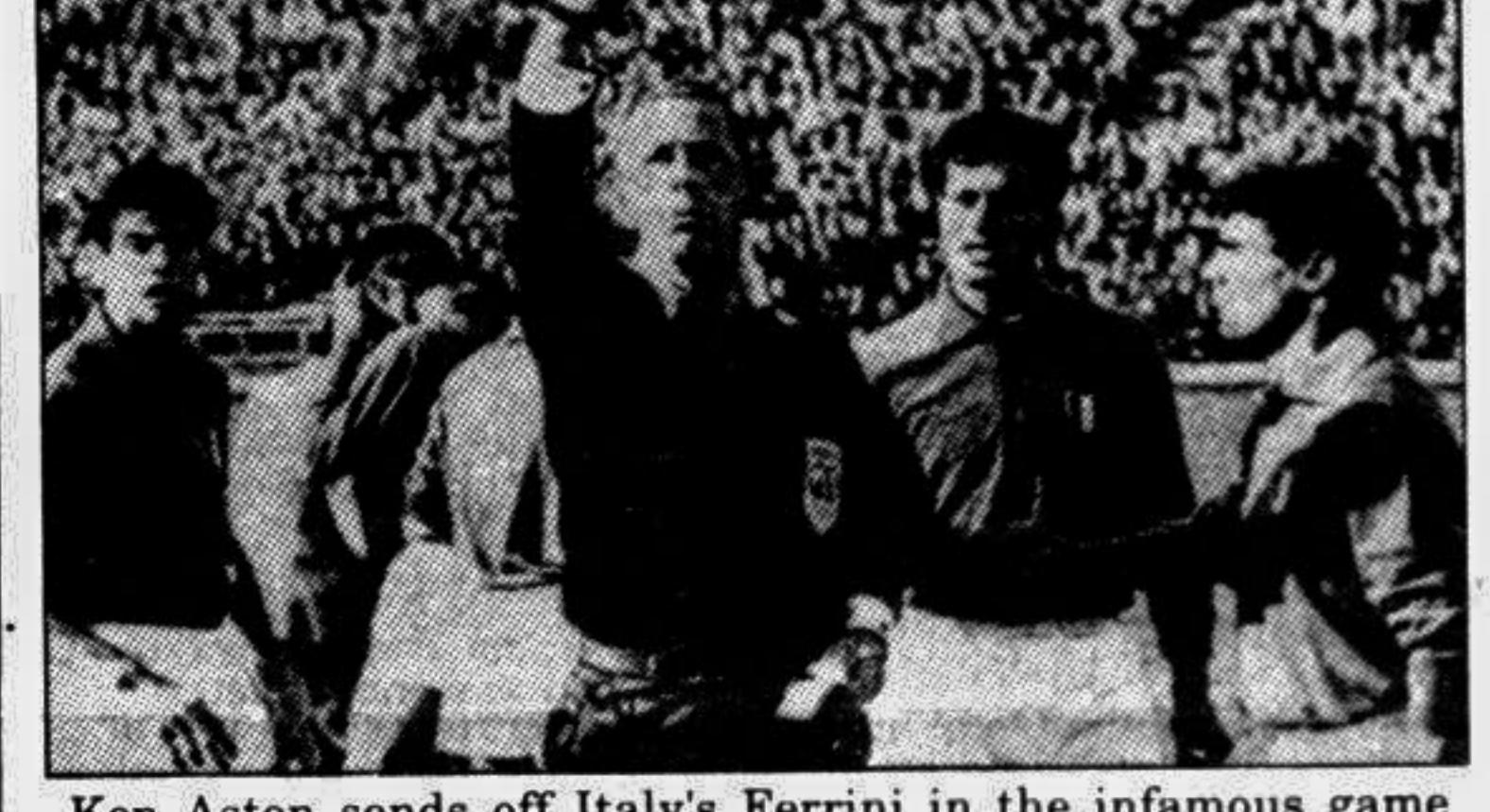
Brazil accounted for England in the quarterfinals (3-1) but the game restored some of the World Cup's lost reputation for open, attacking football. Right-winger Garrincha was Brazil's star.

The shock of the quarter-finals was the defeat of the USSR

some of his magic before hobbling out of the tournament. He pulled a muscle early on against the Czechs and was replaced by Amarildo the "White Pele" against Spain.

The Spain-Brazil match had lain between Chile and Argentina. The latter looked set to get the vote until, paradoxically, Chile was hit by a series of devastating earthquakes in mid-1960. FIFA awarded them the 1962 final after a plea from Carlos Dittborn, president of the FA: "We have nothing; that is why we must have the World Cup".

Chile, an impoverished country, nevertheless built a magnificent national stadium in Santiago, but there were only



Ken Aston sends off Italy's Ferrini in the infamous game with Chile. — Star file photo

three other venues: The organisation was competent but high admission rates resulted in poor gates at all venues except the capital.

In the group matches, goal difference was to count, obviating the need for play-offs.

After just two days of matches, with each team having played once, the World Cup image was severely blighted. After another full round it had become tarnished beyond repair, with teams desperate not to make an early exit, the casualty count had mounted to nearly 50, including four players in hospitals with fractures. In addition, Bulgaria had lost their centre-forward and outside-right, Spain their two full-backs, and four players had been sent off.

Chile had made good start in Group 2 by beating Switzerland 3-1. But their match against the notoriously defensive Italy hit the headlines for its sheer ugliness. The situation was aggravated off the field by two Italian journalists who wrote insulting, patronising articles on Chile and by the time the two teams met the atmosphere between the teams was hostile and potentially violent.

Italy were annoyed by the spitting Chileans whose outside-left Leonel Sanchez was

by Chile (2-1) who were inspired by the fanatical support of the whole country. The biggest crowd of the finals (76,594) at the national stadium saw Chile's progress halted by Garrincha who scored twice in a 4-2 victory. He was then sent off for retaliatory push, spat upon and pushed. In the other semifinal only 6000 turned up to watch the Czechs emerge 3-1 victors over Yugoslavia.

FIFA allowed Garrincha to play in the final. But Brazil found themselves a goal down for the second successive World Cup final. Czech's attacking left-half Masopust tore down the opponent's defence and beat

### Michelle's denial

PARIS, May 2: Irish triple Olympic champion Michelle de Bruin shrugged off doping allegations Friday to win a 100 metres freestyle heat at a club meeting — but refused to comment on the controversy surrounding her, reports AFP.

De Bruin, 28, competing under her maiden name Smith at Sarcelles near Paris, battled past a scrum of photographers and was escorted from the pool by race officials after winning her heat in 57.67 seconds.

She did not wait to compete in the semifinal or final, but was slated to appear today in the 800m freestyle.

— Source: The Sunday Times

Gylmar with a left-footer. It was a short-lived glory as Amarildo scored a stunning equaliser soon after. In the 89th minute Amarildo crossed for Zito to head in the lead and another 8 minutes later Vava sealed the match putting in a loose ball from Schroff's fumbling.

Brazil were now level with Italy and Uruguay with two World Cups to their credit.

— Source: Football Chronicle.

### Sport

## Another jewel in Dennis' crown

LONDON, May 2 (AFP/Internet): Arsenal's Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp was named on Friday English footballer-of-the-year, becoming the fourth successive overseas player to win the award.

The Dutch international follows Jurgen Klinsmann, Eric Cantona and Gianfranco Zola in winning the coveted trophy, voted for by the Football Writers' Association.

Bergkamp is the first Arse-

nal player to win the award since Frank McLintock, captain of the double-winning side of 1970-71.

Runner-up was his Arsenal

captain, Tony Adams — he and Bergkamp pooled more than 50 per cent of the votes — and in third place was Liverpool's young striker Michael Owen. Bergkamp, who has scored 22 goals this season and is joint second highest scorer in the Premiership, said: "I am absolutely overwhelmed to hear that I have won this major prestigious award. I look forward to collecting the trophy."

The 28-year-old was injured against Derby on Wednesday and is battling to be fit for the FA Cup final against Newcastle, when Arsenal could seal another double.

Bergkamp, already named PFA player-of-the-year by his fellow professionals, is the second Dutch player to become footballer-of-the-year, following Frans Thijssen, the Ipswich midfielder, in 1981.

### Ronaldo relieved

MILAN, May 2: Ronaldo's two-match ban for insulting a referee has been lifted on a technicality, clearing the Brazilian ace to play on Sunday, reports AFP.

Furious with Piero Ceccarini after being denied a penalty against Juventus last Sunday and then seeing one awarded against Inter seconds later, Ronaldo cried out that Italy's referees are all corrupt.

The insult initially triggered a two-match ban, however, the sanction has been lifted on appeal because the match report of the incident was made not by Ceccarini but by the fourth official, Claudio Puglisi.

And after a complex debate, Italy's soccer authorities decided that a fourth match official has no authority to make such a report.

Ronaldo was delighted with the verdict, which also saw a two-match ban for Chilean teammate Ivan Zamorano reduced to one match.

"It's wonderful news after so many said days," said the Brazilian, who had just been on international duty in his side's 1-0 defeat to Argentina. "I can't wait to get back on the pitch at San Siro."

I knew the club had appealed but I never expected to have the two matches cancelled out, so much the better.

"Now I just want to put the disappointment of losing to Juventus behind me, because the one aim I've got is to win on Sunday against Piacenza."

"It won't be easy, because Pele plays very tight in defence. But after what has happened, everyone will be really fired up."

claiming he was deceived, and repeatedly savaged former Bayern teammate Juergen Klinsmann for allegedly spreading poisonous rumours and actively lobbying to have him removed from the national team. It came down to a Klinsmann versus Matthaeus power struggle with neither emerging a clear winner.

At a time when Germany's

coach Bert Vogts is preoccupied with getting a healthy mix of youth and experience, 37-year-old Matthaeus simply does not fit into the plan. He is Germany's most capped player (122 games) and last competed for Germany against Albania on December 18, 1994. Ostensibly his international career is long over but the long term absence of Matthias Sammer and an injury suffered by Schalke's Olaf Thon last weekend has left the libra position wide open.

Thon suffered serious ankle

ligament damage against Werder Bremen on Saturday and will miss the final three matches of the Bundesliga season. His right foot has been stabilised in a cast and surgery is believed not to be necessary. If all goes well, Schalke's club medic Dr Armin Langhorst hopes Thon might be able to train again in four weeks time.

But even then there must not be the slightest complication," said Dr Langhorst, "because it is a serious injury. I can't guarantee his fitness for the World Cup."

That leaves Bert Vogts with

a serious dilemma. He knows that his most serious problem lies in defence. Germany's attack-minded midfield leaves the back half too exposed, especially when Germany lose the ball pushing forward.

An experienced man is required in defence to marshall it into position to deal with counter attacks. This is what Matthaeus has come to specialise in at Bayern Munich, but Vogts is unwilling to recall the ageing star because of personal differences. He was booted out of the German team acrimoniously two years ago, just before the European Championships in England. Matthaeus verbally attacked Vogts.

### BERGKAMP

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