

Sport

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-99
 Tick the correct answers
 Post to The Daily Star
 Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
on July 24, 1998

- How many goals has Del Piero scored at France '98?
 0 2 3
- How many times have Uruguay won the World Cup?
 Once Twice Thrice
- Who was the highest scorer in Italia '90?
 Lineker Schuster Cannigja
- Who scored highest number of goals for Holland in France '98?
 Kluyvert Davids Bergkamp
- How many ODI centuries has Tendulkar scored so far?
 17 18 19

Name
 Class Roll No.
 School Address

Phone: (if any)

EN-VITS
 ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK

Local Brazil fan dies

JHENIDAH, July 14: A fan of Brazil died of heart attack on Monday after watching his team being defeated in the World Cup final against France. Local people said, Moslemuddin, 35, of village Mallikpur under Kaliganj thana fell sick after watching the final and died instantly.

Pay dispute rekindled

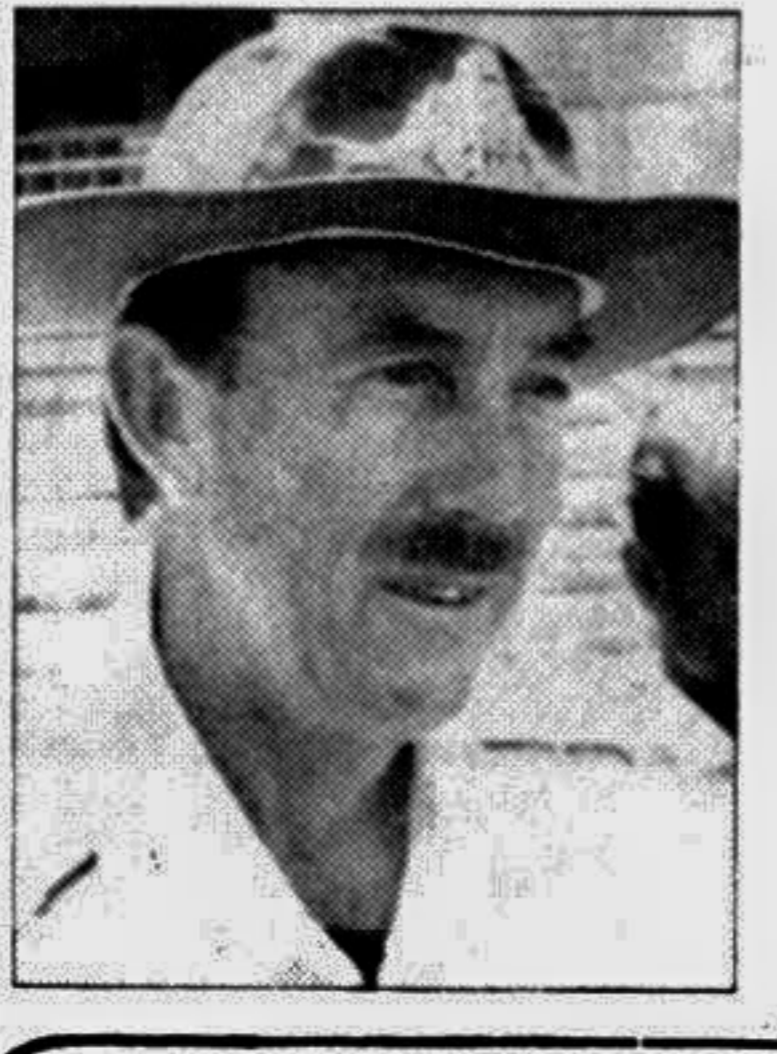
MELBOURNE, July 14: An Australian pay dispute which threatened to disrupt last season's international cricket calendar was set to erupt again, Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA) president Tim May said Tuesday, reports AP.
 May said negotiations with the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) over pay and conditions for the country's first-class cricketers had again broken down.
 Asked how negotiations with the board were progressing, May said: "They are not going anywhere."
 "It's a stalemate and could be described as a full before the storm."
 The dispute flared last October and culminated in threats of player strikes last season. May said the ACA maintained its position that a proportion of total cricket revenue be paid directly to the players' association.
 The board has resisted direct payments to the ACA, fearing it would diminish monies available to players, but has agreed to set aside a proportion of total cricket revenue for player remuneration and welfare.
 An ACB spokesman would not comment on May's remarks.

Indifference

NEW YORK, July 14: The biggest upset in a World Cup final in nearly five decades was of little help to ABC's television ratings, reports AP.
 The 40-market overnight rating for Sunday's final between Brazil and France, produced a 6.9 rating/17 share, 46 per cent lower than the 12.8 overnight for the Brazil-Italy final in 1994.
 When the final US numbers are released Thursday, ABC should show about a 50 per cent drop in ratings for 12 games. The US rating for the final should be approximately equal to this year's rating for the Indianapolis 500.
 The plunge stems largely from the poor performance of the US team and the limited attention paid to an event in Europe.
 "We had realistic expectations for the World Cup, but we don't only measure the success of the tournament by those numbers," said ABC Sports spokesman Mark Mandel.
 A rating point for ABC represents 9,800,000 households. A share is the percentage of televisions tuned to a show.
 Disney-owned ABC and ESPN were expected to show a modest profit on the 22 million dollars rights fees. The three networks, which have signed a long-term deal to show Major League Soccer games, remain committed to the sport.
 "Because the tournament is the world's biggest athletic competition, it gives ABC and ESPN international cachet and provides enormous amounts of quality programming for more than a month," Mandel said.
 Spanish-language Univision was not hurt by the factors that afflicted its English-language rivals, drawing a 22.2/46 for the final. The 1.715 million households tuned into the game were a Univision World Cup record.
 The tournament as a whole brought Univision an average of 850,000 households for the 56 live games, easily eclipsing ESPN (670,000 households) and ESPN2 (114,000).
 ESPN's ratings were hurt by the six-hour time difference with France, which put games in the morning and afternoon in the East Coast, instead of afternoon and night.

Russell arrives

Sports Reporter
 Philip Edgar Russell has arrived in the city yesterday to supervise the ground development works at the Dhaka Stadium which will host the Wills International Trophy from October 24 to November 4.
 On his arrival in the city, the South Africa-based curator expressed his satisfaction for the local pitch experts preparing the grounds for the big event. Nine Test-playing nations -- defending champions Sri Lanka, Australia, India, West Indies, Pakistan, England, South Africa, New Zealand and Zimbabwe -- will take part in the over-limit knock-out tournament.
 "I think it will be a fantastic ground by the end of September", said Russell. Although this was his third visit to Bangladesh, this time around Russell has been appointed by the game's ruling body to coordinate with the local experts.
 Having already won the heart of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), who brought him last summer, Russell was lauded by everyone during the Independence Cup for laying sporting wickets at the Dhaka Stadium.
 During his brief but significant visit in Dhaka, the witty Briton, who migrated to South Africa, will also inspect four other practice venues at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex, BUET and BKSP.
 Russell will submit a report to the ICC on his return to London on July 17.
 Meanwhile, Asif Iqbal, the event manager of the Wills International Trophy, is also expected to reach the capital today to inspect the over-all development works for the tourney.



... (Continuation of the article about Russell's arrival and the stadium development works.)

Hockey transfers 69 change colours

Sports Reporter
 Sixty-nine players changed their allegiance as the inter-club hockey players' transfer for the upcoming season was held at the National Hockey Stadium from July 1 to 6.
 Following are the stick-wielders who took part in the six-day bourse:

Name	New club	Old club
1. Mahfuzul Alam Nixon	Mohammedan SC	Usha KC
2. Khurshid Alam	Abahani KC	Usha KC
3. Rajib Ahmed	Mukta Bhangra TS	Victoria SC
4. Syed Rafiqun Nabi	Usha KC	Abahani KC
5. M Asiquzzaman	Mohammedan SC	Abahani KC
6. Mirazul Ahsan	Mohammedan SC	Abahani KC
7. Russel Khan Bappi	Ajax SC	Abahani KC
8. Isa Miah	Mariner Youngs Club	Usha KC
9. Musa Miah	Mariner Youngs Club	Usha KC
10. Shahenshah Ali	Wari Club	S Bma KS
11. Ali Zabayer	Azad SC	S Bma KS
12. Fazal Mahmud	Mariner Youngs Club	Bangladesh SC
13. Khaja Zahid Titon	Wari Club	Bangladesh SC
14. Jashmuddin Lito	Cantonian SC	Sonali Bank
15. Jamir Hossain	Bangladesh SC	Sonali Bank
16. Zakir Hossain Arif	Barnak Samaj	B Railway
17. Giasuddin Rubel	Mariner Youngs Club	Abahani KC
18. Mamun Hossain	B Railway	Sonali Bank
19. Yousuf Ali Biswas	Mohammedan SC	Marners Youngs Club
20. Asif Imitaz	Sonali Bank	Marners Youngs Club
21. Khurshid Hossain	Bachelors SC	Wari Club
22. Mir Shamul Haque	Wari Club	Marners Youngs Club
23. Khaja Taleb Reza	Wari Club	Bangladesh SC
24. Emdadul Shahidi	Wari Club	Marners Youngs Club
25. Mubashir Rahman	Wari Club	Bangladesh SC
26. Mubashir Uddin	Mohammedan SC	Abahani KC
27. Rashed Hasan Bony	Dhaka Wanderers	Victoria SC
28. Mir Nazim Islam	S Bma KS	Bangladesh SC
29. Juboraj Alam Shumul	S Bma KS	Bangladesh SC
30. Sohel Rana	S Bma KS	Bangladesh SC
31. Wahed Babu	Farashganj SC	Wari Club
32. Rifadul Islam Remon	Farashganj SC	Wari Club
33. Anirul Rahman	Cantonian SC	Wari Club
34. Qamruzzaman	Bangladesh SC	Wari Club
35. Masud Miah	Bangladesh SC	Wari Club
36. Manjur Mushed	Ajax SC	Sonali Bank
37. Abdur Rashid	Usha KC	Sonali Bank
38. Murad Kramulish	S Bma KS	Abahani KC
39. Mosharraf Hossain	Barnak Samaj	Victoria SC
40. Abul Kalam Azad	Shantinagar SC	Wari Club
41. Ishiaque Ahmed Shipu	Abahani KC	Mohammedan SC
42. Jamilur Rahman	Sonali Bank	Mohammedan SC
43. Zahid Hossain Raju	Abahani KC	Mohammedan SC
44. Sheikh Ramiz Ahmed	Abahani KC	Mohammedan SC
45. Abdul Karim	Victoria SC	Wari Club
46. Shahabuddin Ahmed	Shantinagar Club	Wari Club
47. Abdus Samad Mamun	Mukta Bhangra TS	S Bma KS
48. Noor Salam	Azad SC	S Bma KS
49. Mubashir Salam	Ajax SC	Farashganj SC
50. Shariful Alam Shyamol	Ajax SC	Mohammedan SC
51. Bachchu Gazi	Wari Club	S Bma KS
52. Adnan M Ashraful Bari	Ajax SC	Sonali Bank
53. Khalid Iqbal Farid Chy	Barnak Samaj	Bangladesh SC
54. Shameem Ahmed	Abahani KC	Marners Youngs Club
55. Bashir Hossain Sabu	Bangladesh SC	Wari Club
56. Khaja Asif Kasef	Bachelors SC	Wari Club
57. Siraful Islam	Sonali Bank	Farashganj SC
58. Mahmud Hossain	Sonali Bank	Bangladesh SC
59. Din Mohammad Bulbul	Dhaka Hockey Club	S Bma KS
60. Mujibur Rahman	S Bma KS	Marners Youngs Club
61. Wasim Hossain	B Railway	S Bma KS
62. Shaheen Alam Don	Mariner Youngs Club	Wari Club
63. Din Lusa	Wari Club	Victoria SC
64. Khaja Anadel Hossain	Mariner Youngs Club	S Bma KS
65. Anwar Hossain	Shantinagar SC	Farashganj SC
66. Khaja Tyeb Reza	Wari Club	Farashganj SC
67. Abdullah Piro	Usha KC	Farashganj SC
68. Rashed Khan	Mukta Bhangra TS	B Railway
69. Ramjan Haider	Victoria SC	Farashganj SC

C'wealth Games venues finalised

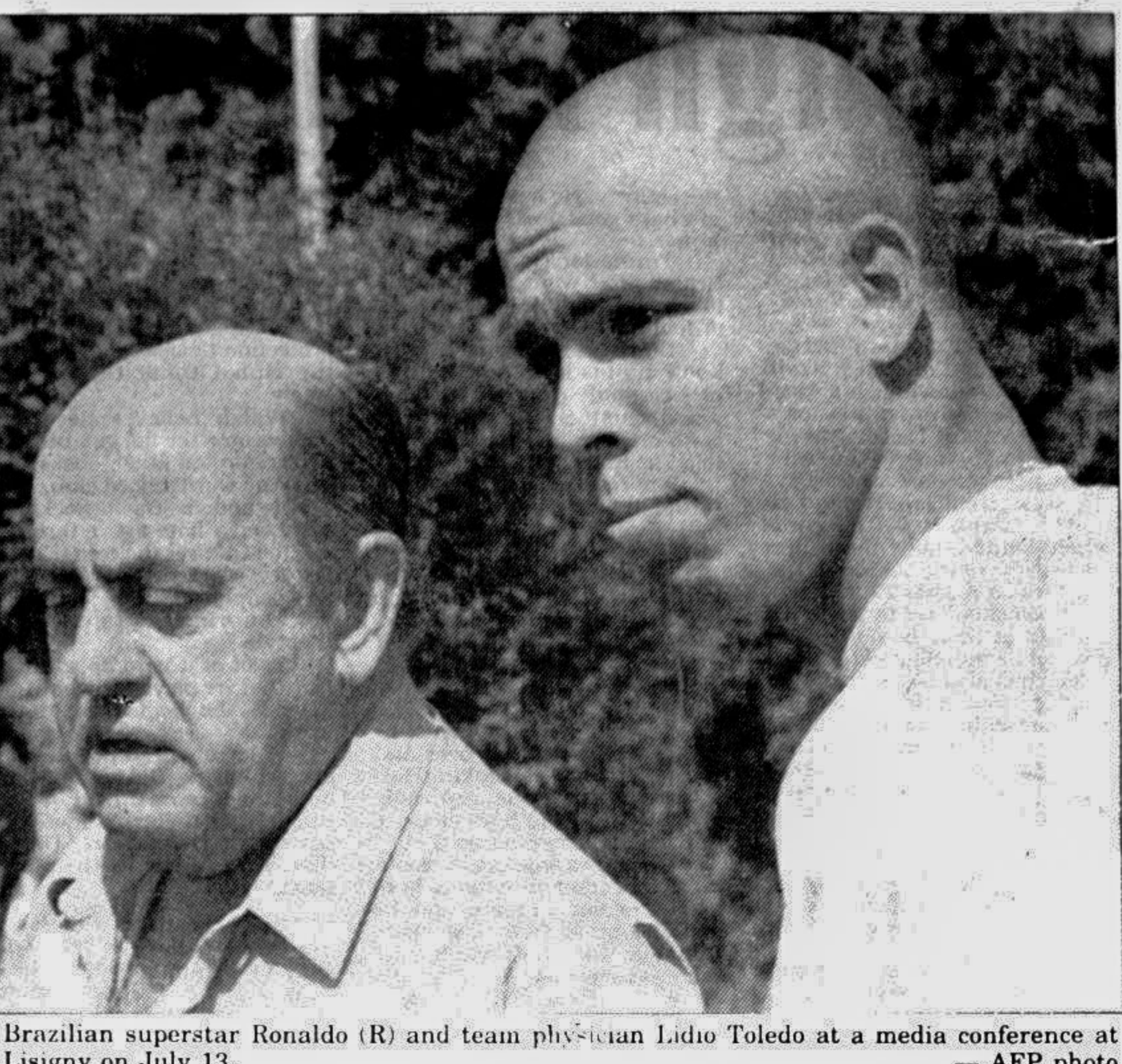
KUALA LUMPUR, July 14: The Commonwealth Games Federation gave its final approval Sunday to facilities for the September Games, but cautioned organisers that there was very little time to complete their work, reports AP.
 "The time frame is very short. There cannot be any slippage," warned Michael S Fennel, the federation chairman.
 A two-member team commissioned by the federation submitted a report of its week-long appraisal of the various facilities in Kuala Lumpur for the 10-day games beginning on Sept 11.
 "We would have liked to see all the facilities finished," said Roger Jackson, a Canadian expert on evaluating cities that bid for international sports events.
 "I am confident that the games will be a success," said Richard Palmer, executive vice president of the British Olympic Committee and Jackson's partner on the evaluating team.
 But, he warned, "the next 60 days are critical."
 Neither gave details of what they saw as drawbacks, but Palmer said these were "not of overwhelming concern."
 Although experts have praised the new stadiums, tracks and pools that Malaysia has built, there have been concerns over transport arrangements, media facilities and the danger of haze like that which blanketed the region at the same time last year. Low ticket sales have triggered worries about a revenue shortfall.
 The 1.2 billion ringgit (dhs 300 million) main venue for the 16th Commonwealth Games was inaugurated Saturday night amid the bursting of firecrackers.
 The National Sports Complex, with its 100,000-seat Bukit Jalil Main Stadium, boasts a cable-tension membrane roof that covers 38,000 square meters (410,000 square feet), making it the biggest of its kind in the world, according to sports authorities.
 But workers would still be putting finishing touches on most other venues to be tried by athletes from Malaysia and some neighboring countries during the week-long pre-games starting Monday.
 Fennel, the Games Federation chairman, also said that the withdrawal of a 5 million ringgit (dhs 1.25 million) sponsorship by beer maker Carlsberg would not cripple the Kuala Lumpur event. The budget for the games is 310 million ringgit (dhs 77.5 million), he said.

Scotland 87/3 at lunch

Sports Reporter
 Scotland were 87 for three at lunch on the opening day of the three-day match against Bangladesh in Lincithgow, Scotland yesterday.
 According to a telephone message received here last night, Scotland, sent into bat, were struggling at 34 for two with left arm seamer Morshed Ali Khan claiming both the wickets for the visitors.
 Left arm spinner Mohammad Rafique took the other wicket in an impressive first session for Bangladesh, who are playing their last match of a gruelling one and a half-month long tour to the British Isles.

C'wealth Games BHF picks 25 for camping

Sports Reporter
 Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) yesterday called 25 players in the national camp for the forthcoming Commonwealth Games to be held in Malaysia next September.
 The twenty-five have been selected from the 42 players, called in the primary section trail a few months ago.
 Bangladesh, pencilled in one group along with Pakistan, Malaysia, England, Kenya and Canada, will play their first match against hosts Malaysia on September 9.
 The following 25 players have been asked to report to coach Ehtesham Sultan at the National Hockey Stadium at 7:30 pm tomorrow. They are: Mohammed Javed (MSC), Russel Khan Bappi (AKC), L/NK Jahangir Alam (Army), Manunur Rashid (AKC), Mahfuzul Alam Nixon (Usha KC), Isa Miah (Usha KC), Ishiaque Ahmed Shipu (MSC), Rabiuddin Ahmed (AKC), Shahidullah Khokon (MSC), Kurshid Alam (Usha KC), Mahbub Harun (AKC), Ashiquzzaman (AKC), Musa Miah (Usha KC), Mirazul Ahsan (AKC), Tutul Kumar Nag (Usha KC), Giasuddin Rubel (AKC), Sheikh Ramiz Ahmed (MSC), Rafiqul Islam Kamal (Usha KC), Mohammad Sadeq (Usha KC), Alamgir Alam (AKC), Mujahidul Islam (BKSP), Mahbub Ehsan Prince (BKSP), Ariful Haque Prince (BKSP), Mowdud Rahman Shuvo (BKSP) and Shamsuzzaman Khokon (AKC).
Booters to tour Qatar
 Sports Reporter
 Bangladesh national football team will visit Qatar later this month to play two friendly matches.
 The 25-member team including five officials, is expected to leave the capital on September 25. The week long tour has been arranged at the request of Qatar Football Federation, said a senior Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) officials yesterday.
Cricket trials
 West End Street Club, a Dhanmondi-based sports and cultural organisation, is inviting aspiring cricketers for trial with a view to form a team for the upcoming Third Division cricket qualifying tournament, says a press release.
 Interested candidates have been requested to contact Nurul Karim by phone (No 868197) or Sohel during net practice at the Dhanmondi Club ground on July 16, 17 and 18 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.
Army football
 Hosts Rangpur Area defeated Dhaka Engineers 3-2 in the annual Army football championship at the Rangpur Cantonment yesterday, reports UNB.
 Dhaka Infantry drew 1-1 with Momenahat Area while Chittagong Area drew 1-1 with Log Area.



Brazilian superstar Ronaldo (R) and team physician Lidio Toledo at a media conference at Lisigny on July 13.

Revised Champs' League

LONDON, July 14: Europe's leading soccer clubs face more fixture congestion after UEFA agreed changes to the format of the lucrative Champions' League on Friday, reports Reuters.
 Under the proposals, approved by European soccer's executive committee in Paris, the current 24-team format will be retained but with four groups of six teams from 1999-2000 rather than the current six groups of four.
 It means each of the 24 teams will play 10 group games instead of six, significantly boosting the income they can expect from television rights and prize money.
 The top two teams in each group will qualify for the two-legged quarterfinal stage, but in another change, the semifinals previously played over two legs, will be played as a single match on a neutral venue on the first Wednesday in May.
 UEFA's statement said the May semifinal date was one of three additional 'matchdays' required under the new format, "the other two will be in October and March," the statement added.
 It has been known for some time that the current formula has not met with universal approval by the clubs, some of whom had demanded more games in the earlier rounds.
 The decision to have just four groups certainly simplifies the qualification for the quarter-finals. Under the current six-group system the top team in each plus the two best second-placed teams qualify for the last eight, a format that last season had mathematicians tearing their hair out.
 But the accompanying increase in the number of games played by each club under the new system will undoubtedly increase the pressure on clubs to prioritise the Champions' League over domestic competitions.
 UEFA also said on Friday that the venue for the finals of the three European club competitions -- the European Cup (Champions' League), Cup Winners' Cup and UEFA Cup -- would in future be announced three years in advance.
 The move gives cities more time to plan and foresee any last minute problems such as the one experienced by Amsterdam prior to the European Cup final in May when an 11th-hour dispute over flights into the Dutch city almost caused the showpiece event to be moved elsewhere.
 UEFA also announced on Friday that France will represent Europe in the Confederations' Cup to be played in Mexico next January.
 France qualifies as the European team which has performed best at the World Cup. Mexico, the United States, Brazil, Bolivia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and a team from Oceania will also compete in the tournament. The eight teams will be divided into two groups which will be followed by semifinals and a final.

'No-ad'

KILLARNEY, Ireland, July 14: Tennis' governing body is to experiment with a 'no-ad' scoring system for certain tournaments, it was confirmed Monday, reports AFP.
 The International Tennis Federation (ITF) decided at their annual general meeting here to introduce the rule -- which allows the next point to win a game when the score is deuce -- for two years.
 It will be introduced in Davis Cup Groups II, III and IV, and Fed Cup qualifying events first, but the ITF have given permission for other tournament and match committees to carry out the experiment as well -- provided it is advertised in advance.
 The ITF believe the 'no-ad' system could make matches shorter and easier to schedule for television, and inject another element of excitement into the game.

Johnson preparing for Rome

ROME, July 14 (AP) -- Michael Johnson isn't used to rebounding from defeat. He rarely needs to. But the double Olympic champion will be looking to prevent a losing streak when he lines up for the 400 metres Tuesday night at the Golden Gala meet.
 Still fighting injury-related rust, Johnson faded over the final stretch in Oslo, Norway, last week en route to a startling third-place finish -- just his second loss of the 1990s in the 400.
 He'll have a chance to gain some revenge against the two men who beat him in Oslo, Britons Mark Richardson and Iwan Thomas, at Rome's Olympic Stadium.
 Johnson is among more than two dozen world or Olympic champions competing in the second leg of the new Golden League. The six-meet series offers one million dollars for anyone who can win at each venue.
 Other entrants include women's 100 metres world champion Marion Jones, who will run that race and then have about half an hour to rest ahead of the long jump, men's 100 world champ Maurice Greene, who'll face the 200 titlist, Ato Boldo, in the dash; and World and Olympic 10,000 winner Haile Gebrselassie, looking to lower his own mark for the 5,000.
 "People expect me to go out and win every time. It's not easy to do that," Johnson said Monday. "It's been difficult with the injuries. I'm not ready at this point. But at this point I need races rather than staying home and training."
 The American has been hampered for about four months by a hurt Achilles and problems with both hamstrings.
 He acknowledged he's far from the spectacular form he displayed at the Atlanta Olympics, producing an unprecedented sweep of the 200 and 400 titles plus an electrifying record of 19.32 seconds in the former.
 "In 1996 I was completely healthy," Johnson said, "because of the injuries now I had to lose some time training. I don't know what percentage I am now."
 Before the off-night in Oslo, Johnson's only defeat of the decade in the 400 came in June, 1997, when he was fifth in a race in Paris.
 That snapped a streak of 58 consecutive wins, dating to February 1989.
 Less than two months after the Paris setback, Johnson bounced back to take a repeat world title in the 400.
 There have been few setbacks during the brief but brilliant track career of Jones, a former college basketball standout who on Monday reiterated her desire to take a crack at five gold medals at the 2000 Olympics -- in the 100, 200, long jump, 400 relay and 1,600 relay.
 "I train to be No 1. Second place isn't good enough," the world's top-ranked female sprinter said. "If I'm at my best I can't be beat."
 Greene, by contrast, has suffered something of a sophomore slump this season. After his burst to prominence in 1997 with National and world titles in the 100, he pulled out of the US championships last month with leg and stomach cramps and then was beaten by veteran Frankie Fredericks at Oslo in what Greene called "a rusty race."

Belgians bank on Van Herck

INDIANAPOLIS, July 14: Needing all the help it can get against the heavily favoured United States, Belgium hopes to have Johan Van Herck at full strength for this week's Davis Cup quarter-final, reports AP.
 Van Herck, returning from a hamstring injury, went through a hard practice Saturday for the first time since he was forced to retire last month from the first round of Wimbledon.
 "My injury is fine. I didn't play for two weeks," Van Herck said. "That was the first time. I didn't play for two weeks." Van Herck said. "That was the first time I was able to play like three hours, so I have a lot of work to do."
 The United States is seeking its 18th consecutive home victory.
 Other challenges for Belgium -- in the quarterfinals of the World Group for the first time ever -- include playing on a hard court and against a team that features two players who were once ranked No. 1 in the world.
 The Belgium team began practising at the Indianapolis Tennis Centre on Saturday and will be joined by the US team Monday.
 The US lineup is set. Andre Agassi and Jim Courier will play singles, and Todd Martin and Richey Reneberg will play doubles.
 Belgium captain Keon Gonnisson planned to announce his lineup later in the week. Competition begins with two singles matches Friday, and Gonnisson has until Thursday morning to make his decision.
 "He'll be choosing from among four young players -- Filip Dewulf, Christophe Van Garre, Van Herck and 17-year-old Xavier Malisse, who left Belgium to develop his game at Nick Bollettieri's tennis academy in Florida."
 "We're four equally balanced players. We have a lot of choice to play singles or doubles," Van Herck said.
 The countries are meeting for the first time since 1957 and Belgium -- a country where only about 20,000 people play tennis -- accepts the underdog role.
 And US players are comfortable on hard courts -- the sur-



A model clad in an evening gown during the Yves Saint Laurent's fashion parade before the World Cup final at Stade de France on July 12.