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Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT the first thing Ronaldo did when he became rich was to buy braces for his teeth. In his childhood he had never been so crooked that he had never had a girlfriend. I don't believe this. What has one's teeth got to do with friendship? The only time your teeth can come between you and your friend is when you forget it. Without a love life, Ronu had all the time in the world to kick a ball around. And then he became one of the best footballers of the world. Thank you, all those girls out there for making such a big deal about his teeth.

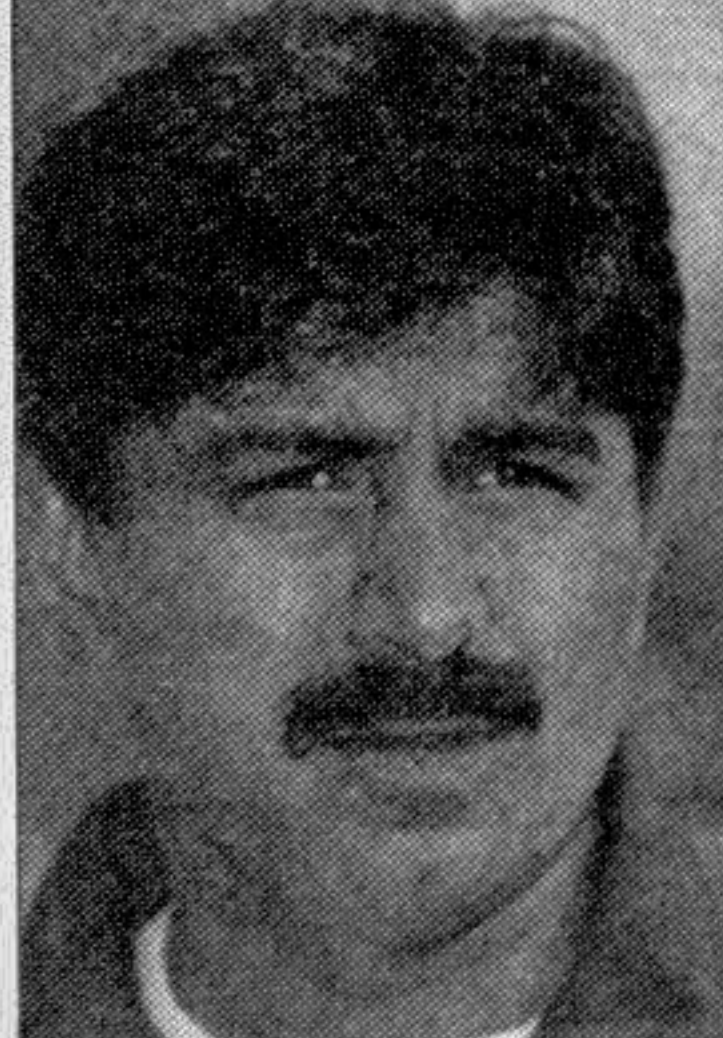
But, now Ronaldo needs braces for his hurt ego. And, not all the money in the world can buy you that.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
 COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-103
 Tick the Correct Answers
 Post to The Daily Star
 Win attractive prizes
 Competition closes at 8 pm, Sept 25 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

1	How many nations are taking part in the 16th C'wealth Games cricket?	12	16	20
2	Who is skipping Barbados in C'wealth Games cricket?	Wallace	Gibson	Campbell
3	Where were the previous C'wealth Games held?	England	Canada	Australia
4	How many countries are taking part in the 16th Commonwealth Games?	50	60	70
5	In how many disciplines, is Bangladesh participating in the 16th Commonwealth Games?	Two	Seven	Nine

Name
 Class Roll No.
 School Address
 Phone: (if any)

EN-VITS
 ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS
SPORTS TALK



Javed Miandad
 (Pakistan's cricket coach)
 "If I have to retain respect and command over my fans and deliver what is expected of me, I have to extract the best out of my players and I would start by ordering them to mend their ways or pack their bags."
 On how he intends to perform his job.

Soccercide
 WARRI, Nigeria, Sept 21 (Reuters/Internet): Four people were shot dead by soldiers at a soccer game in the southern Nigerian town of Warri after ethnic rioting erupted over a disputed refereeing decision, witnesses said.

They said soldiers opened fire on waving fans and players of Millea Waterside FC, a mostly ethnic-Ijaw team, and rivals from the largely Urhobo Agbassa FMC, after the referee sent off one player from each side at a local cup match on Sunday.

The soldiers opened fire indiscriminately and everybody scattered, said Monday Oshuku, a spectator at the game.

A police spokesman said an investigation was under way into the cause of the incident at the Cavigna Primary School pitch.

Dozens of people have been killed in ethnic clashes over the past two years between rival groups who live in the oil-producing swamp regions of the Niger River delta which surround Warri.



Pakistan skipper Aamir Sohail receiving the Sahara Cup in Toronto on Sunday after defeating India by five wickets in the fifth match. Pakistan won the series 4-1. — AP/UNB photo

Indians gain no solace

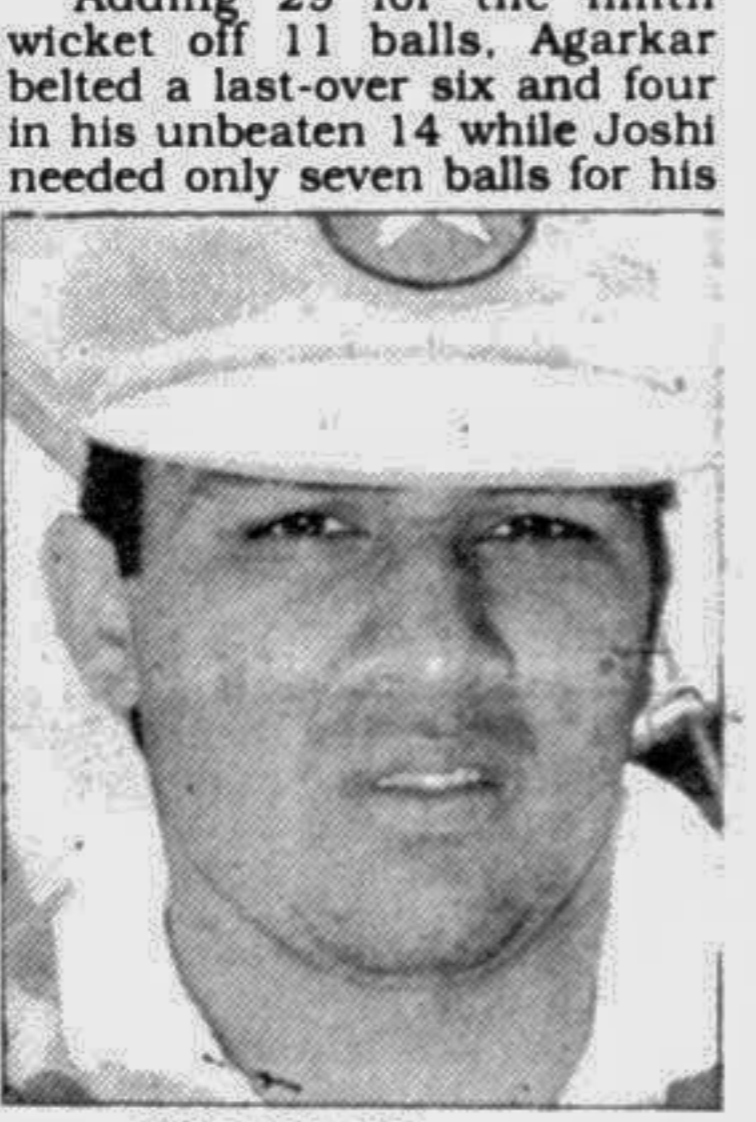
TORONTO, Sept 21 (AP): Anything India could do, Pakistan could do better in the third annual Sahara Cup cricket series.

Already down 3-1 and seeking a consolation victory in the redundant fifth and final match at the Toronto Cricket, Skating and Curling Club Sunday, India piled up their highest total of the tournament, 256 for nine off 50 overs, and were still beaten by five wickets with 10 balls to spare.

Their captain, Mohammad Azharuddin, hit a fluent 101, his seventh hundred in one-day internationals, and shared a third wicket partnership of 121 with Sachin Tendulkar, the No 1 batsman specially flown in from Mumbai to bolster flagging Indian fortunes, who made 77.

India's total was boosted by fierce late hitting by Javagal Srinath. Ajit Agarkar and the left-handed Sunil Joshi that yielded 51 runs off the final five overs that included two sixes and six fours.

Adding 29 for the ninth wicket off 11 balls, Agarkar belted a last-over six and four in his unbeaten 14 while Joshi needed only seven balls for his spin.



INZAMAM ... p-o-s

Pakistan responded with a similarly dominant left-handed second wicket partnership of 119 between opener Saeed Anwar, who made 83, and captain Aamir Sohail, who hit the winning runs to be unbeaten 97 at the end to earn the player-of-the-match award from former International Cricket Council chairman Sir Clyde Walcott.

That stand was the foundation of the victory that completed Pakistan's 4-1 victory in the tournament.

Azharuddin, in top form from the start, stroked 104 and a six off Saqlain Mushtaq that raised his hundred. But he fell next ball off a return catch to the wily off-spinner who was Pakistan's best bowler with four wickets for 67 off 10 overs.

Tendulkar, unavailable earlier because he was in the Indian team at the simultaneous Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, arrived in Toronto Saturday and took his time to settle in. He scored 77 off 109 balls with nine fours before he was caught in the deep off Sohail's left-arm

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the fifth and final match between Pakistan and India in the Sahara Cup limited-over series on Sunday:

INDIA

Ganguly c Inzamam b Mahmood	7
Tendulkar c Inzamam b Sohail	99
Sidhu lbw Mahmood	101
Azharuddin c and b Saqlain	10
Jadeja c Afridi b Saqlain	5
Mongia c Afridi b Saqlain	8
Srinath c Moin b Sohail	10
Raul lbw Saqlain	14
Agarkar not out	14
Joshi c Inzamam b Saqlain	19
Extras (lb-2, w-9, nb-2)	13
Total (for nine wickets in 50 overs)	256
Did not bat: B Prasad	
Fall of wickets: 1-35; 2-35; 3-156; 4-175; 5-207; 6-213; 7-213; 8-227; 9-256.	

Bowler

O	M	R	W	
Aaqib	7	0	26	0
Mahmood	10	2	30	2
Zahid	5	1	29	0
Afridi	8	0	43	1
Saqlain	10	0	67	4
Sohail	10	0	59	2

PAKISTAN

Anwar lbw Joshi	83
Afridi b Srinath	10
Sohail not out	97
Inzamam lbw Joshi	10
Salim Malik c Agarkar b Srinath	26
Ijaz c Mongia b Srinath	8
Moin not out	12
Extras (lb-4, lb-6, W-11, nb-2)	23
Total (for five in 48.2 overs)	258
Did not bat: Azhar Mahmood, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mohammad Zahid, Aaqib Javed.	
Fall of wickets: 1-48; 2-167; 3-167; 4-213; 5-222.	

Bowler

O	M	R	W	
Srinath	10	0	50	3
Prasad	10	0	47	0
Agarkar	9	1	46	0
Ganguly	6	0	45	0
Jadeja	1:2	0	10	0
Raul	2	0	14	0
Joshi	10	0	36	2

Result: Pakistan won by five wickets.
Pakistan won series 4-1.
Player-of-the-match: Aamir Sohail.
Player-of-the-series: Inzamam-ul-Haq.

Taylor's men arrive in Pakistan tomorrow

Aiming to end decades of failures

PERTH, Sept 21: Four years after a tour that was to have repercussions for three of the world's top cricketers, Australia returns to Pakistan hoping to break a 40-year series winless streak, reports AP.

The Australians arrive in Karachi on Wednesday and open a seven-week tour with a four day match on Friday before the first of three tests at Rawalpindi beginning Oct. 1.

Ian Healy's missed stumping of Inzamam-ul-Haq off leg spinner Shane Warne in the first Test at the Karachi National Stadium in 1994 turned what would have been a 1-0 win into a 1-0 loss.

Warne, fellow spinner Tim May and batsman Mark Waugh later alleged Pakistan captain and player-of-the-series Salim Malik tried to bribe them into playing poorly.

After initial exonerations, the issue flared again earlier this month when a Pakistani judge found Malik, left-arm quick Wasim Akram and batsman Ijaz Ahmed responsible for match-fixing and recommended they be banned. The saga won't be settled when the Australians arrive in Karachi.

It will almost certainly be the last hurrah on the subcontinent for captain Mark Taylor, deputy Steve Waugh and Healy

— who needs three more dismissals to overtake Rod Marsh (355) as the all-time leading Test wicketkeeper.

Richie Benaud was the last Australian captain to win a series in Pakistan 2-0, in 1959-60.

They remain Australia's only victories on Pakistan soil in 17 Tests and seven tours.

Taylor began his reign on the Pakistan tour in 1994 with a pair of draws and a one-wicket loss, then strung together nine consecutive Test series wins before losing 2-1 in India earlier this year.

Among the major selection gambles is the recall of left-handed batsman Justin Langer, who has averaged only 22 from eight Tests scattered across four series and four years.

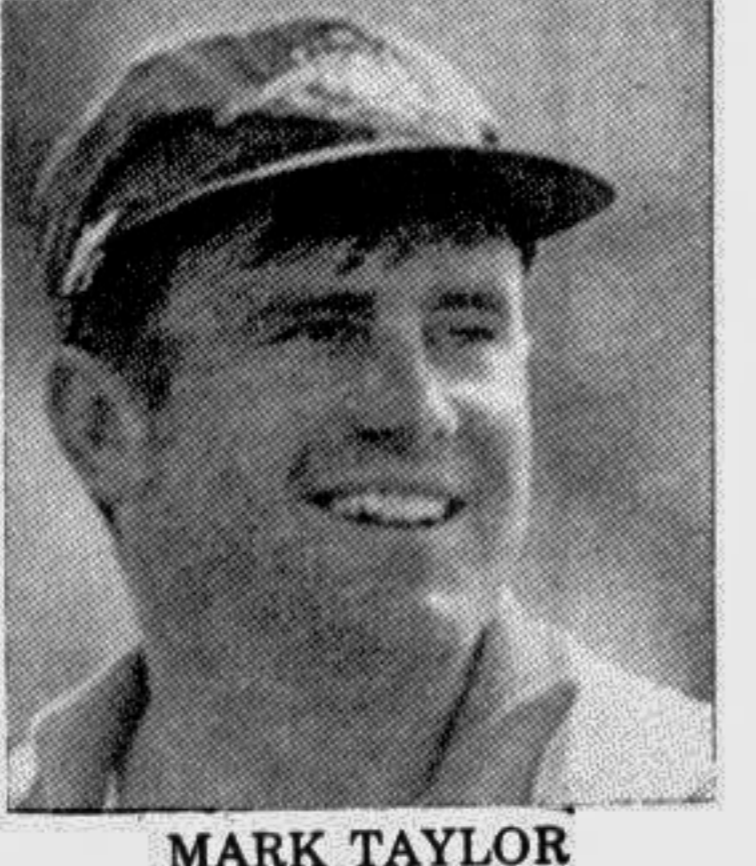
Langer will bat at No. 3 after Greg Blewett was dropped for the second time for failing to deal with spin.

Although the Australians will be without Warne, recovering from shoulder surgery, they have been boosted by the return of paceman Glenn McGrath who missed most of last season with a stomach problem.

The return of McGrath gives Australia a potent attack, with swing bowler Damien Fleming a proven performer on the subcontinent and Michael Kasprovicz now settled in at test level.

Leg-spinner Stuart MacGill showed he was up to Test level when he debuted in Adelaide last season, while off-spinners Gavin Robertson and Colin Miller should both enjoy the conditions.

Australia will also play three limited-overs matches in November at the end of the tour.



MARK TAYLOR

Greenidge for Kathmandu

Sports Reporter
 Gordon Greenidge, director of coaching of Bangladesh Cricket Board, is likely to accompany the national cricket team during its Pepsi ACC trophy campaign in Nepal early next month, a senior BCB official said this yesterday.

"Gordon will go in the capacity of director of coaching along with a separate local coach and manager," said the official who opted to remain anonymous.

"This is how we are thinking at this moment and we will discuss this in our tomorrow's meeting. Everything depends on the meeting," he added.

Muktijoddha beat Punjabis

Sports Reporter
 Premier Division league champions Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra stormed into the semi-finals of the Independence Day Cup football tournament with a convincing 2-0 win over Punjab Electricity Board in their last group A match played in Naogaon, Assam, yesterday.

The winners lead the first half 1-0.

Muktijoddha, with their second successive win in the three-team group A, emerged group champions with an all-win record and will now meet Nagaland Police, the runners-up from group B, in the semi-final scheduled at the same venue tomorrow.

National forward Alfaz Ahmed played the pivotal role in both the goals for the winners with his skillful speedy game.

For the first goal, the dark and dapper booter broke through the Punjab Electricity Board defence to minus the ball to Rezaul Karim Liton who sent the ball home with a power-packed grounder in the 25th minute.

After the breather, Alfaz once again was instrumental in setting the ball for Nakib who sealed the Punjab team's fate with a brilliant placing in the 48th minute. It was Nakib's second goal in two matches.

He also struck on Saturday when Muktijoddha won their first match 3-0 against Assam Police on September 19.

BCB meets today

Sports Reporter
 The Bangladesh Cricket Board executive committee will meet this afternoon at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The board is likely to name this evening a new captain of the national team for the forthcoming Pepsi ACC trophy scheduled to be held at Kathmandu, Nepal, on October 3.

The Kathmandu-bound team, its coach and manager will also be announced today after the meeting.

The meeting will also confirm various sub-committees, ticket rates and budget for the upcoming Wills International Cup which will be held in the capital from October 24.

Tragedy of cricket!

ISLAMABAD, Sept 21 (AFP): A Pakistani shot his nephew dead for supporting India as they watched the Sahara Cup match between the teams of the two rival nations on television. It was reported today.

The incident occurred in the nearby city of Rawalpindi late Sunday, the News daily said.

According to a complaint lodged with the police, a man identified only as Arabab, was infuriated when his nephew started supporting the Indian cricketers, the newspaper said.

Arabab pulled out a pistol and fired at his 32-year-old nephew who was critically injured and died in hospital, the report said.

Troussier signs as Japan coach

TOKYO, Sept 21 (Reuters/Internet): Philippe Troussier, the Frenchman who took South Africa to the 1998 World Cup final, formally signed as coach of the Japanese national team on Monday.

Troussier will head the Japanese national team until June 2000 or until the end of the Sydney Olympic Games later that year if Japan's under-23 team qualifies for that event, Japanese Football Association officials said.

Nicknamed 'Le Sorcier Blanc' (The White Sorcerer), the much-travelled Troussier has coached the national sides of Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Burkina Faso and South Africa over the last five years. His contract with South Africa expired after France '98.

His new job, which is to prepare Japan for the next Asian Cup and the 2002 World Cup finals which they jointly host with South Korea, is his first coaching appointment in Asia after 10 years working in Africa. He replaces Takeshi Okada who resigned after the team's poor showing at France '98.



Queen Elizabeth II (R) presenting the gold medal to Matthew Shirvington, a member of the Australian 4x100 metres relay team at Kuala Lumpur yesterday. — AP/UNB photo

Curtain falls in KL.

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 21 (Reuters/Internet): Proud Malaysia brought down the curtain on Asia's biggest-ever sports show on Monday, basking in the success of an 11-day festival that defied most, if not all, predictions.

Military bands played 'Rock around the Clock', streamers burst from the roof and fireworks shattered the hot night air before Britain's Queen Elizabeth formally closed the 16th Commonwealth Games at a full-pomp closing ceremony.

With the Kuala Lumpur stadium ringed by police, anti-government protesters were far out of sight — but not always out of mind.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, whose former deputy was arrested on Sunday accused of sodomy and treason, entered the cavernous arena to loud cheers and chants of "Malaysia, Malaysia".

Several hundred of the 4,200 athletes from 70 nations and territories of the old British Empire who took part in the Games marched past.

But it was Malaysia's night, even if it had to pass the baton on reluctantly to the northern English city of Manchester which is to host the next Commonwealth Games in 2002.

Manchester sent Sir Bobby Charlton, the English World Cup hero who had survived the 1958 Munich air disaster that almost wiped out one of the world's best-known soccer teams, Manchester United.

"Thank you Kuala Lumpur," Charlton said from the stadium stage. "We would like to invite you all to Manchester."

And, as thousands of volunteers who had helped run the Games followed in their own march past, 100,000 people chanted "Boleh, Boleh" — "We Can Do It".

And they had. Before the Games started, few expected everything to fall into place quite so well.

The time last year Malaysia was covered by a blanket of smog from Indonesian forest fires, the La Nina weather phenomenon, which has brought more rain than usual, prevented



FINAL MEDALS TABLE

Final Commonwealth Games official medals table on Monday:

Country	G	S	B	T
Australia	80	60	58	198
England	36	47	53	136
Canada	30	37	38	99
Malaysia	10	14	12	36
South Africa	9	11	15	35
New Zealand	8	7	19	34
India	7	10	8	25
Kenya	7	5	4	16
Jamaica	4	2	0	6
Wales	3	4	8	15
Scotland	3	2	7	12
Nauru	3	0	0	3
Northern Ireland	2	1	2	5
Zimbabwe	2	0	3	5
Ghana	2	0	3	5
Cyprus	1	1	1	3
Mauritius	1	1	1	3
Tanzania	1	1	1	3
Trinidad and Tobago	1	1	1	3
Bahamas	1	1	0	2
Mozambique	1	1	0	2
Barbados	1	0	2	3
Lesotho	1	0	0	1
Cameroon	0	3	3	6
Namibia	0	2	1	3
Seychelles	0	2	0	2
Sri Lanka	0	1	1	2
Fiji	0	0	1	1
Isle of Man	0	1	0	1
Pakistan	0	1	0	1
Papua New Guinea	0	0	1	1
Uganda	0	0	1	1
Zambia	0	0	1	1

'Kookaburras' amerce hosts

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 21: Australia, the eternal chokers of world hockey, finally discarded the tag when they blasted Malaysia 4-0 to win the Commonwealth Games gold here on Sunday, reports AFP.

The 'kookaburras' silenced some 16,000 Malaysian fans at the packed national stadium with a dazzling brand of attacking hockey that left the hosts shell-shocked.

Michael Brennan scored once in each half as Australia dominated the one-sided final by taking an impressive 3-0 lead at the breather.

Australia, beaten in the semifinals of both the Atlanta Olympics in 1996 and the World Cup this year, won their first major title since the Champions' Trophy triumph here in 1993.

It was Australia's fifth win in six matches against Malaysia this year, but fell short of the 8-0 drubbing they handed down at the World Cup in the Netherlands in May.

Coach Terry Walsh said the gold medal will go a long way in improving Australia's image in world hockey.

"We blew it a few times in the past, so it was a nice feeling to win, to know we can also win," said Walsh, who took over from Frank Murray after the Atlanta Olympics.

"It was important to take our chances and get the goals. We did just that, in the final and deserved to be the champions."

Walsh, who coached Malaysia for four years till 1994, may have another reason to be delighted.

He came under flak from the hosts earlier in the competition by saying Malaysia had rigged the tournament schedule to ensure they did not have to play on successive days.

Malaysia, who surprised even their German coach Paul Lissek by defeating both Canada and India on the way to the final, had no answer to the Australian onslaught.

"There is no disgrace in losing to a better team like Australia," said Lissek, who came here after the World Cup specifically to prepare the hosts for the Games.

"I am proud of this team. Not many people expected them to be in the final."

Charity soccer on Sept 24

Film artists have come forward to raise funds for flood victims by organising a friendly football match, reports UNB.

The match between heroes and villains comedians will be held at Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium at 3 pm on September 24.

Bangladesh Film Artists Association has organised the match. Its president Mahmud Kali informed that the proceeds of the match will be donated to Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

transport and result systems, but there was none of the organisational chaos which blighted the Atlanta Olympics two years ago.

One problem was a lack of spectators, Monday's closing ceremony was the first time the grand new Bukit Jalil stadium had been filled anywhere close to capacity.

What began as an interesting sideshow downtown upstaged the Games in its final days. More than 30,000 people protested in central Kuala Lumpur on Sunday to call for Mahathir's resignation and in support of his sacked deputy, Anwar Ibrahim.

Police used tear gas to disperse the protesters and Anwar, former heir apparent to the veteran Malaysian leader, was arrested and charged with sodomy and treason.

There was a repeat of the protests on Monday.

But fears the protesters might target the full-pomp closing ceremony proved unfounded. The only protest at the ceremony was by a group of about 100 Games volunteers who were locked out of the party which followed the ceremonies.

Instead, Games organisers proudly thanked the public for their support of Malaysia's first major international outing, and Malaysia's athletes for efforts which brought 10 gold medals, 14 silvers and 12 bronze.

That put them fourth in the medals table, behind supporting powers Australia, England and Canada.

"Malaysia promised us the best Games ever and they have delivered on that promise," Commonwealth Games Federation chief Michael Fennell told a jubilant crowd.

And the Queen performed her task. "I proclaim the 16th Commonwealth Games, Kuala Lumpur 1998, closed," she said and issued the formal invitation to athletes of "the Commonwealth family of nations," to the next "Friendly Games" in Manchester.

Then the party began, with the entertainment provided by local and international pop stars, including Irish folk-rock group The Corrs.