

Alan Shearer

(England striker)  
There might be a time in the future when I tell my side of the story but now is not the time."

About the rift between Ruud Gullit and him at Newcastle United.

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	Man United   Arsenal   Liverpool
2	Who is Sri Lanka's cricket coach?
	Whitmore   Yardley   Fernandez
3	Who won the Confederations Cup title?
	Brazil   Mexico   USA
4	Who is the Bangladesh cricket captain?
	Mohamad   Akram   Aminul
5	Which stadium will host the final of 2002 World Cup?
	Yokohama   Suzuki   Nagoya
Name	.....
Class	.....
School Address	.....
Phone: (if any)	.....

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## No respite for Ntini

EAST LONDON, South Africa, Sept 9: A flood of protests on Wednesday led to the withdrawal of convicted rapist Makhaya Ntini, the first black to play for South Africa, from Border's team for a friendly provincial game this weekend, reports Reuters.

Ntini, 22, was pulled out of the team after callers jammed the Border Cricket Board (BCB) switchboard.

"After due consideration we realised we were hasty in selecting Ntini," said BCB general manager Reunert Bausier.

"We must respect the fact that he is a convicted rapist and until such time as he is cleared he will not play."

Ntini was dropped from the national side before this year's World Cup after he was found guilty of raping a 21-year-old woman in December. He is out on bail pending an appeal against the conviction due to be heard in October.

Bausier said the BCB offices had been inundated with wide ranging protests, including some from women's groups.

United Cricket Board managing director Ali Bacher said he had been surprised by the selection.

"I understand that he was to train with Border and play some club cricket until his appeal was heard," Bacher told the Johannesburg daily Sportsday.

"I would have thought it was in Makhaya's best interests to stay out of the spotlight until the whole affair was finalised."

Earlier, BCB president Robbie Muzzell defended Ntini's selection.

## Navy b'ball

Patrol Craft Squadron clinched the title of Bangladesh Navy basketball championship. They defeated BNS Haji Monsir 56-55 in the final match concluded at the Sailors Colony basketball court, Dhaka Cantonment yesterday, reports BSS.

## BFF names SAF squad

# Jewel retains his job

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday announced a 20-member squad for the forthcoming South Asian Federation (SAF) Games with central defender Jewel Rana retaining as captain.

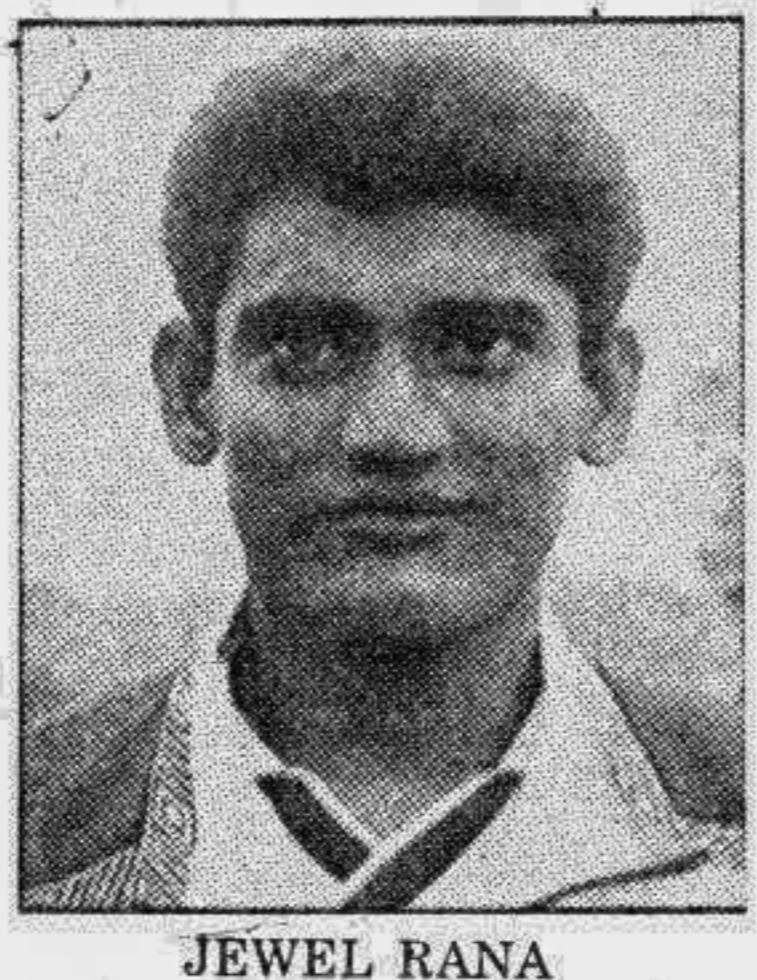
The team, which is likely to leave the capital for Nepal on September 15, will however miss the services of number one custodian Aminul in their desperate bid for the maiden football gold in this regional meet.

Aminul, who played extremely well for Abahani this year, will miss the SAF football bus due to injury.

The tall national custodian, considered to have the safest pair of hands under bar after a long time since the departure of Mohsin, has broken two fingers of his right hand during Bangladesh's clash with Kerulet FC of Hungary in the Bangabandhu Cup on September 3.

The sad departure of Aminul however prompted the Iraqi coach of the national team Samir Shakir to recall experi-

enced national custodian Ponir. But apart from Ponir's inclusion Samir has almost retained the same squad that played extremely well in the recently concluded Bangabandhu Cup.



JEWEL RANA

Parvez Babu, the young mid-fielder of Badda, is however the notable omission from Samir's choice of 20 for the Banga-

bandhu Cup. Rezaul Karim Liton, an impressive performer for Muktijoddha this year, replaces Parvez.

Although the inspirational Iraqi has picked up three goalkeepers-- Ponir, Biplob and Apel, he however chooses not to upset the defence and the attacking line-ups.

While Jewel plays the pivotal role in Samir's otherwise solid defence the Iraqi World Cupper will be looking forward to his left-wing back Masud Rana, who is not in a devastating form, to live up to his experience.

The midfield will revolve round Iqbal, Monwar and to some extent Motiur Muuua. While Alfaiz and Mizanur will be Samir's most potential choice in the up-front.

**SQUAD**  
Jewel (captain), Alfaiz (vice-captain), Ponir, Masud Rana, Rajani, Iqbal, Hasan al-Mamun, Biplob, Monwar Munna, Mizanur Rahman Don, Motiur Munna, Monwar Hossain, Nazrul Islam, Saurav Raju, Faisal, Tipu, Rezaul Karim Liton, Anwar, Apel and Mintu.

## Ponting's pivotal role

**SCORER**  
KANDY, Sri Lanka, Sept 9: Ricky Ponting rescued Australia with a fighting 96 on the opening day of the first Test against Sri Lanka on Thursday.

Scoreboard on the first day of the first Test between Australia and Sri Lanka on Thursday:

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings  
Slater lbw b Vaas 0  
Blewett lbw b Zoya 0  
Langer c De Silva b Vaas 7  
Maugh c & b Vaas 6  
S Waugh c De Silva b Zoya 19  
Ponting c & b Muralitharan 96  
Healy st Kaluwitharana b  
Muralitharan 11  
Warne c Atapattu b Zoya 0  
Gillespie lbw b Muralitharan 41  
Miller c Atapattu b Muralitharan 0  
McGrath not out 0  
Extras: (nb-4) 4  
Total: 188  
Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-4; 3-9; 4-16; 5-40; 6-59; 7-60; 8-167; 9-171.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Vaas 16 2 43 3  
Zoya 13 2 38 3  
Muralitharan 25.1 4 63 4  
Jayasuriya 5 0 5 0  
Chandana 8 1 39 0

**SRI LANKA:** First innings  
Jayasuriya lbw McGrath 18  
Atapattu not out 25  
Arnold lbw Miller 19  
Extras: (b-4, lb-2, nb-1) 7  
Total: (For two wickets) 69

Fall of wickets: 1-22; 2-69

To bat: Aravinda de Silva, Arjuna Ranatunga, Mahela Jayawardene, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Upul Chandana, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralitharan, Nuwan Zoysa.

**Bowler** (to date) O M R W  
McGrath 6 0 25 1  
Gillespie 6 0 21 0  
Miller 4.2 2 9 1  
Warne 4 2 8 0

RICKY PONTING ... 96

ralitharan, the most successful Sri Lanka bowler with four for 63.

Sri Lanka skipper Sanath Jayasuriya fell leg before to Glenn McGrath for 18 and Russell Arnold was out the same way to off-spinner Colin Miller for 19 in a first innings reply of 69 for two by the close.

Zoysa, back for his second spell of the morning, made Steve Waugh edge a catch to De Silva in the slips. The captain

Both openers fell without scoring. Michael Slater was trapped leg before by Vaas in the first over and Greg Blewett was out the same way to Zoya in the next.

Worse followed as Justin Langer edged a catch to Aravinda de Silva off Vaas having made seven. Mark Waugh, on six, then presented a return catch to Vaas.

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