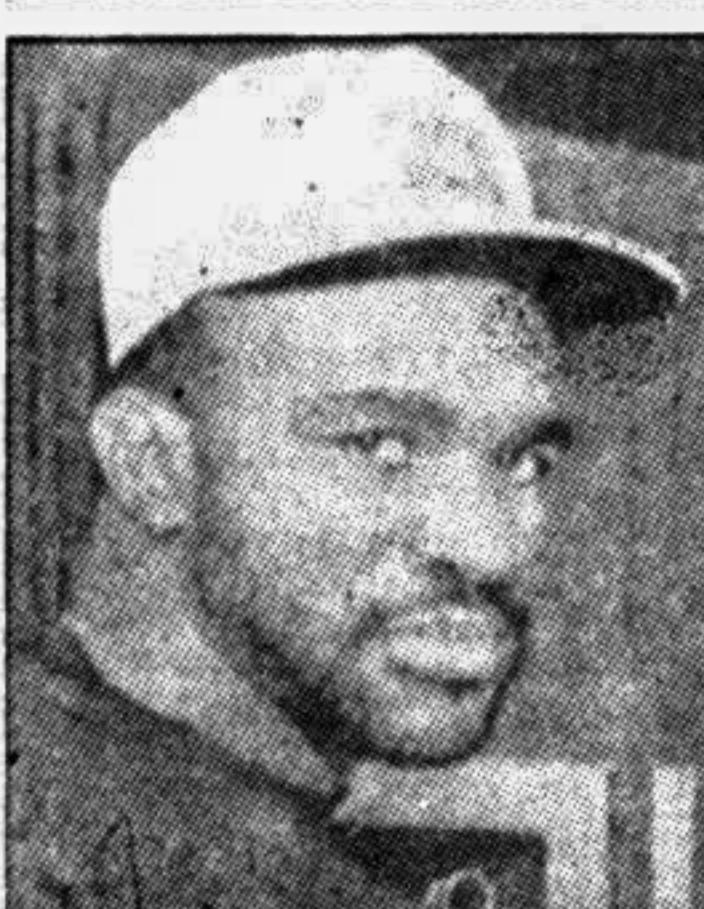


Star Sport

DHAKA THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Evander Holyfield
(Former heavyweight world champion)
'Age is not catching up with me. I am getting older.'

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-123

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

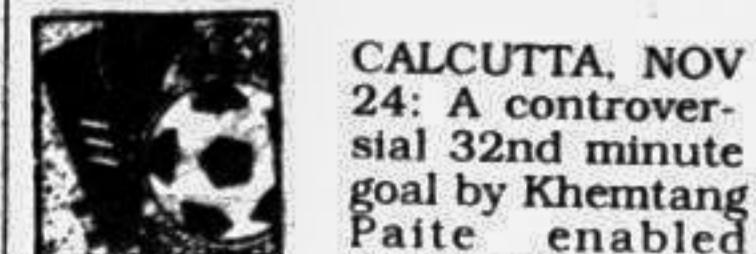
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Nov 26, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

Bagan end Badda's challenge

From our Correspondent



CALCUTTA, Nov 24: A controversial 32nd minute goal by Khemtang Paita enabled Mohun Bagan to

overcome a resolute Badda Jagarani of Bangladesh in the second semi-final of the IFA Shield here today. However, leaving aside the goal, Mohun Bagan were the dominant side all through. The main reason being the ultra defensive approach adopted by the Jagarani footballers. In the match save for a shot by Midfielder Saiful Islam from the top of the box, the visitors did not trouble the Mohun Bagan defenders on a single occasion. Hassan was unlucky as his shot was saved by Hemanta Dora in the Mohun Bagan goal.

Jagarani had two attackers upfront namely Mani and Khokon. They came up against Jewel Rana, Sammy Omeelo and Debit Ghosh. The numerical superiority always lay with the Mohun Bagan defenders. As a result, Jagarani had to defend most of the time. Another mistake that the footballers made was to attack down the middle.

The result raids were easily cut off by the funnel system of

defence adopted by Mohun Bagan.

With veteran Satyajit Chatterjee playing very well today, Mohun Bagan attacked in waves especially in the first session. In a span of three minutes between the fifth and the eighth, the broke open the Jagarani defence.

On the first occasion Chatterjee's through down the middle was picked up by an unmarked James.

But he failed to control the ball. In the very next minute Ittocha Singh ran down the right and found Kasif.

Jamal on the top box. His powerful shot was off target. Two minutes later, Satyajit again ran down the right and found James with a lovely backpass. The latter's powerful right footer was blocked by Tumeer Choudhury at the cost of a corner.

Dipankar Roy, Dipankar Biswas and Saiful Islam were busy defending. The supply line was, as a result cut off for the Jagarani forwards. It was A. Fatai's brilliance in defence that saved Jagarani from a degrading scoreline.

The goal however, came un-

der a cloud of controversy. Defender M. Hassan was injured as he went for a desperate tackle on Chatterjee who was breaking down the right. As he lay on the sidelines, James Singh played a one-two with Kasif down the middle, he then switched on to the right and ran down with the ball. The subsequent floater was headed down by Kasif Jamal on to the path of an onrushing Paita. With Fatai out of position, Paita unleashed a powerful right footer that did not give Titumee any chance in the Jagarani goal.

The second half was drab compared to the first with play being restricted to the midfield. Both the sides indulged in needless back-passes. With Tanveer Choudhury having an off day, the usual flair of Jagarani down the flanks was missing.

After the match coach Kanan said that Jamal had handled the ball while heading it down. "The referee should have awarded a handball in our favour. However, other than that, I have no complaints. We played badly today. We rarely troubled the Mohun Bagan defenders."

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CWAB-BCB tug of war over

Sports Reporter

The Cricketers' Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB) withdrew their guns last Tuesday (Shab-e-Barat night) and have agreed to join all playing activities, including the ongoing National League, with immediate effect.

The nearly two-week old 'huff and puff' came to an end with the release of a joint statement signed by the BCB joint secretary Mahmud Ul Haque and the CWAB organising secretary Naimur Rahman.

The cricketers, responding to an appeal from the president of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Saber Hossain Chowdhury and for the greater interest of the game have decided to take part in the National League", said the joint statement, which came after the successful meeting of the CWAB with Saber.

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South Korea's Yeo Woon Kon (R) tries to evade two Pakistani defenders during their Asia Cup men's field hockey championship meeting in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. —AFP photo

Bangladesh mauled

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh ended their first round campaign of the 5th Asia Cup Hockey Championship on a sour

note when they suffered a 0-6 defeat against former World Champions Pakistan in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday.

Although a defeat for Bangladesh was always on the card in a clash of unequal opponents, Pakistan made a mockery of a contest when they took an unassassable 4-0 lead at the breather. It was also the heaviest defeat for Bangladesh in the championship. They lost to defending champions Korea 4-0 in the opening match, but showed a spectacular run round in their next two encounters against China and Sri Lanka.

Bangladesh held China 1-1 in the second match before

steamrolling Sri Lanka 7-1 in the penultimate group league match.

With Tuesday's defeat Bangladesh finished third in the Group with four points ahead of China by virtue of better goal difference. They will now take on Hong Kong in the position-deciding match tomorrow.

The four-time winner of this tournament had merely to play at half pace to dispose of Bangladesh who even when fortuitous chance offered a goal scoring opportunity, could not muster the sharpness to finish it.

One came as early as the second minute when forward Ishitaque Ahmed forced a penalty corner but his weak shot from it was easily saved.

Forwards were to turn malignant rather swiftly and cruelly for Ishitaque just four minutes later when he gifted opposing

forward Arif Mohammad with a pass in his own circle for the latter to stroke in for Pakistan's first goal.

As Pakistan's forwards engaged in some tepid sparring at the Bangladeshi defense, it was left to their penalty corner specialist Sohail Abbas to step up the ante with two conversions with his trademark flicks in the 13th and 25th minutes.

Nadeem Mohamed (28th), Arif Mohammad (50th) and again Sohail (63rd) went on to complete the formality of a Pakistan win.

AFP adds, defending champions South Korea continued to foster the impression of holding something in reserve when chalking up a 6-1 win over China in a Group A match on Tuesday.

Korea led 3-1 at halftime.

Earlier victories over feeble Bangladesh (5-0) and inept Sri

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More of Sachin to come



NEW DELHI, Nov 24 (AFP): Sachin Tendulkar left for Australia on Tuesday to begin a second decade in international cricket that promises bigger feasts from the little master than the first one.

Tendulkar leads India on the tough 74-day tour, which includes three Tests against Steve Waugh's men and a triangular one-day series also featuring Pakistan.

The Indian captain, who turns 27 next April, is widely regarded as the most likely candidate to shatter all batting records — except, perhaps, Australian legend Don Bradman's awesome average of 99.6.

With 21 Test and 24 one-day centuries under his belt, Tendulkar may already have done enough in the last 10 years to be rated as one of the game's all-time greats.

"But he is hungry for more

against Shane Warne and company should be a treat for Australian fans, who were drawn to Tendulkar when he toured there as a 18-year-old during the 1991-92 season.

Tendulkar smashed an unbroken 148 in Warne's debut Test at Sydney, before signing off with a brilliant 114 in India's 272 on the fastest wicket in the world at Perth.

Tendulkar was again in spectacular form when Australia toured India early last year, scoring his maiden first-class 200 in a side match at Bombay, followed by two centuries in the Test series.

Australia's misery continued on the subsequent one-day tournament in Sharjah where Tendulkar hit two back-to-back hundreds to win India the title.

Tendulkar goes to Australia with an impressive tally of

Asian Cup qualifying

Boomers beaten 0-3

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh stumbled to their second consecutive defeat in the 12th Asian Cup qualifying round when hosts United Arab Emirates (UAE) blanked them 3-0 at Abu Dhabi on Tuesday.

Bangladesh, who were thrashed by Uzbekistan 6-0 in the opening Group Three match on November 21, however showed some sort of resilience in their second encounter despite conceding the

According to a faxed message received here yesterday, Bangladesh played extremely well in the second half after the hosts took a 2-0 lead at the breather.

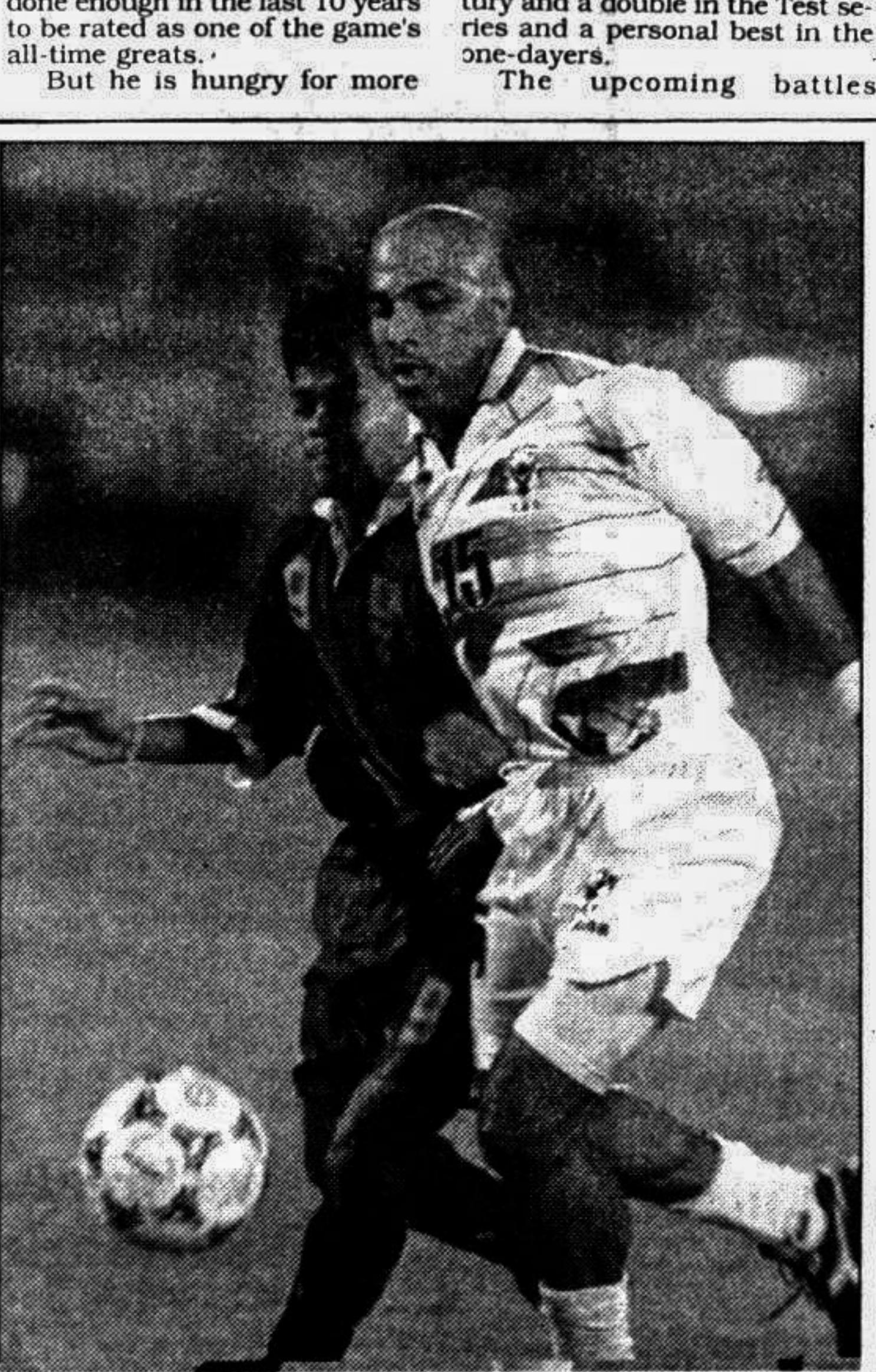
Buoyed by the presence of around two thousand Bangladeshi expatriates in the desert kingdom, Bangladesh came close to scoring on a number of occasions in the second session. But striker Alifz Ali failed to head the ball home from a hand-shaking distance, eventually letting the more colorful hosts off the hook.

Abdur Rahim scored the first goal for UAE in the fourth minute lobbing the ball home over an out of position Bangladeshi custodian Biplob.

Biplob was also responsible for the second goal in the 17th minute. UAE sealed the fate of the match when Fuaad hammered the third from a goal mouth scramble midway through the second half.

Bangladesh will take on Sri Lanka in their third group league match today.

—AFP photo



Bangladesh forward Mizanur Rahman (L) and Emirates' Mohamed Ali Ahmed fight for possession during their Asian Cup encounter at Al Ain on November 23.

Rezaul ruins Khulna

Sports Reporter

A six-wicket haul by Rezaul Hasan gave Chittagong a deserved 34-run first innings lead over Khulna and two points as their three-day National Cricket League clash ended in a draw at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on Tuesday.

CHITTAGONG: First innings 278 in 97.3 overs (Fakhru 92 no., Haroon 57, Walif 52; Khairuzzaman 2/40, Jamaluddin 2/68).

KHULNA: First Innings 244 in 91.1 overs (Asadullah Khan 50, Niaz 38, Shamim 35, Raju 34; Rezaul 6/44, Ibrar 2/36, Niaz 2/79).

CHITTAGONG: Second innings: 128 for 1 in 35 overs (Nafees 60 no., Haroon 50 no.).

On the final day, Khulna, who resumed their first innings on overnight total of 227 for 8, could add another 14 runs before being all out for 244 runs in the 7th over of the day.

Rezaul, who took five wickets on Monday for 44 runs, captured another without conceding any more runs.

Chittagong, in their second innings, were 128 for one when the umpires called off the game.

Opener Nafees was unbeaten on 60 while Haroon was at the other end with 51.

Rezaul was later adjudged man-of-the-match.

DMCCS lauds CCDM

Sports Reporter

The newly-formed Dhaka Mahanagar Cricket Club Samity (DMCCS) has vowed not to participate in any Premier Division cricketers transfers before the scheduled January 17 start.

In a press release yesterday signed by Ahmed Parvez Sham-suddin, member secretary, the DMCCS said that the club reserved the right to decide when to hold the transfers and neither would they allow any sort of interference in future.

The DMCCS blamed the agitated cricketers for the recent crisis.

The organisation applauded the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan's (CCDM) decision for boycotting seven players.

"I spoke to Lele a few days

ago to ascertain whether he had made any such statements," Mutthia said.

He totally denied having made the remarks."

Dev hit back after the team arrived in Brisbane insisting he was optimistic about the chances of his side.

"I have a lot of confidence in my team," Dev said.

"I don't think (Lele) can say that but, if he has, that's his opinion and we can't change anybody's opinion."

"I have a team that has a talent and we can only talk about it at the end of the series."

India were thrashed 4-0 on their last tour of Australia in 1992 and are under no illusions as to how difficult the job will be this time after Australia's remarkable win in this week's second Test with Pakistan.

"I have not spoken to anybody, including Rediff-on-the-net, regarding the merits of the team which has been sent to Australia.

"All that these guys want to do is model and make money," he was quoted as saying.

"We have no problem with that ... they are given meal and laundry allowance. But in the evenings they start searching

for invitations to dinner so that they can save that money. "I mean, you are getting this money, come on use it and don't live like beggars," Lele said.

Sachin Tendulkar's team would be decimated by the Australian tour.

"I have a lot of confidence in my team," Dev said.

"I am seeking legal opinion on the issue," he told the Press Trust of India.

In the interview, which was splashed in all the leading newspapers on Wednesday, Lele reportedly called coach Kapil Dev a "liar" and ridiculed the selection for the tour which starts on Friday.

Rediff's Executive Editor, Prem Panicker, said he was standing by the story and the reporter.

"Frankly, I'm not surprised

at the denial. I've interviewed Lele myself and he makes a habit of saying these kind of things and then denying them," Panicker told AFP.

"I think he's the only person in the world who once said he was misquoted on television."

Indian board president A C Muthiah described the controversy as unfortunate just as the team