

Go for... **DELL** COMPUTERS

from SYSCOM  
Tel: 9124917, 8128294  
Fax: 88-42-8122304  
E-mail: sycom@bd-online.com

**Dell Latitude**  
HIGH PERFORMANCE  
DEPENDABLE NOTE  
BOOK

SYSCOM  
Tel: 9124917, 8128294  
Fax: 88-42-8122304  
E-mail: sycom@bd-online.com



## Did U Know?

Cricketer Barry Farman of Australia was in the news on August 4, 1964, when the tourists met English county club Glamorgan. The umpire at the bowler's end gave him out caught, and the other umpire gave him out stumped. And he appeared in the scorebooks as caught by the wicket-keeper, EW Jones!



## What to WATCH

ESPN  
Man United vs Valencia  
UEFA Champions' League  
10.30 am



## TALK TURKEY



**Yevgeny Kafelnikov**  
(Russian tennis star)  
"I will do my best to win the Davis Cup this season. This is the only trophy I have failed to win during my career and I will probably quit in the event of our winning this season."

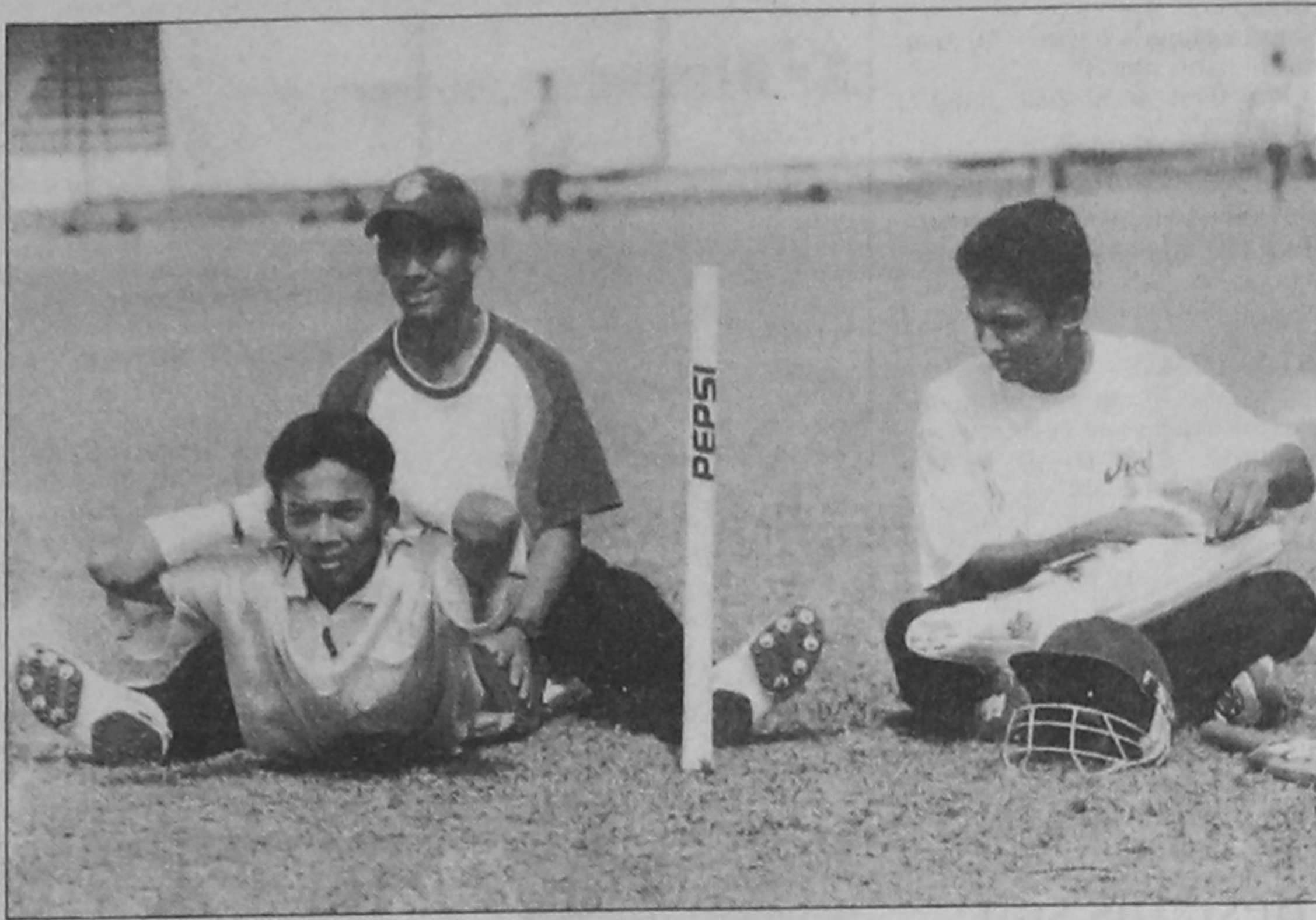
## Sports WHIZZ KID

**Competition 144**  
✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
Feb 16, 2001 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- Who became Green Delta Premier Division cricket league champs?  
Chittagong Biman | Khulna
  - Who lifted Milo U-13 cricket title?  
Rajshahi | Rajshahi Tista | Barisal Maroons
  - Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy clinched the three-match one-day series  
2-1 | 3-0 | 2-0
  - Who lifted the Australian open men's title?  
Sampras | Agassi | Rafter
  - Who lifted the Australian open women's title?  
Devenport | Capriati | Hingis
- Name: .....  
Class: ..... Roll No.: .....  
School Address: .....  
Phone: (If any) .....

## Guyana President thinks the world of Hooper

REUTERS, Georgetown  
Carl Hooper should be recalled by the West Indies for next month's home series against South Africa, Guyana President Bharrat Jagdeo said on Tuesday.  
Jagdeo said he had planned an appeal to the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) since Hooper returned from Australia to represent Guyana in the Busta Cup last October, but had waited until the all-rounder proved himself in the competition.  
"I think Carl Hooper has demonstrated he should be part of the West Indies team and I urge the WICB and the selectors panel to include Carl Hooper in the next test match," Jagdeo said.



With the help of opening batsman Mohammad Ashraful Bangladesh wicketkeeper Pavel does some stretching while skipper Nafis Iqbal looks on at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Juvenile fiesta starts today

### India yet to arrive

SPORTS REPORTER

The GrameenPhone Second Under-17 Asia Cup begins in the capital this morning amid tight security because of the dawn-to-dusk hartal called by the four-party opposition alliance.

After State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader formally inaugurates the juvenile meet at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, then hosts Bangladesh and Nepal will play in a Group B match.

Two other matches will be held on the opening day at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) ground in Savar. In Group A defending champions Sri Lanka face Oman and runners-up Pakistan take on Kuwait in another Group B clash.

Because India were yet to reach the capital their game against the United Arab Emirates would not be held today. It is understood that the Indian Board was awaiting go-ahead from their government. India, which is maintaining a strict 'no cricket links' policy with Pakistan since the Kargil conflict in 1999, were scheduled to arrive at the Zia International Airport at 3:35 pm yesterday.

The general secretary of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Jaywant Lele told Bangla-

desh Cricket Board (BCB) joint-secretary Mahmud Ul Haq that the team could not avail proper clearance.

Mahmud, who is also event manager of the 10-nation meet, however told reporters that Lele still sounded optimistic of getting permission by Thursday morning.

"If the BCCI can manage the clearance tomorrow morning, the

stan-Kuwait match had to be shifted to the BKSP ground number two from Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium for security reasons. India were originally scheduled to meet UAE at BKSP-2.

Mahmud assured that additional police would be deployed at all the venues during the tournament.

Bangladesh have been drafted in Group B along with Pakistan, Kuwait, Singapore and Nepal while Sri Lanka lead the other group which includes India, Malaysia, UAE and Oman.

Bangladesh Television will telecast three matches -- Bangladesh v Pakistan first round clash on February 20, one semifinal on February 22 and the final on February 24 -- live from Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Meanwhile, seven teams -- Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Malaysia, Singapore, Kuwait, Oman and UAE have already reached the city while Singapore were scheduled to reach here last night.

### TODAY'S MATCHES

Bangladesh v Nepal (Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)  
Pakistan v Kuwait (Venue: BKSP-2)  
Sri Lanka v Oman (Venue: BKSP-1)



STEVE WAUGH

overconfidence in his charges.  
Part of that meant keeping the team fresh and not being afraid to drop even high performing players, such as leg-spinner Stuart MacGill, who was a notable omission from the India tour.  
"That's where I think Steve Waugh might be a master strate-

gist because I think he's shown the ability to get them to keep going, to keep resetting the goals, keep setting the bar a little bit higher so there hasn't been a great deal of evidence of complacency," he said.

"He's certainly very very strong in (psyching out opponents) and I think that's one of the reasons the team's doing as well as it is."

"He strikes me as the sort of person who doesn't say or do anything unless he's really thought about it and he's doing it for a reason."

Bond said under Waugh's leadership the whole Australian team had a huge psychological edge.

"During the big performance it's what's between the ears that's the most important thing and Australia seems to have a pretty good bunch of things going on between their ears," he said.

"There's a culture of professionalism and consistency and keeping the pressure on and making people crack and they've become pretty good at it."

## 2002 WC qualifiers BD-Vietnam match today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will take on Vietnam in their return leg opener of the Group Ten 2002 World Cup qualifiers at the Mohammad Fahad Bin Abdul Aziz Stadium in Riyadh today.

The match will kick off at 11.30 pm (BST). Hosts Saudi Arabia will take on Mongolia in first match starting at 9.30 pm.

Bangladesh, who finished second behind Saudi Arabia at the end of the first leg, would be looking forward to improving their game in their repeat clash against Vietnam. Bangladesh drew goalless with their more colourful South East Asian nation in the first encounter.

A win against Vietnam would also brighten Bangladesh's prospect of finishing second in the group, a feat that they had never achieved in their previous four World Cup qualifying appearances.

Bangladesh finished on four points along with Vietnam after the three first leg games. But they moved on to the second position on a better goal aggregate when they beat Mongolia by 3-0. Saudi Arabia are leading the group with maximum nine points.

Wednesday February 14, 02:50 PM

## Premier League cricket Crisis continues to prevail

SPORTS REPORTER

The crisis over the Premier League this year has deepened further as the organisers, Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM), is yet to talk a stubborn Kalabagan Krira Chakra into playing terms.

Having been already deferred twice, the most colourful domestic event is scheduled to start on Friday. But the CCDM secretary Mahmud Ul Haq was not sure yet whether the League would commence on time.

The CCDM found itself in sticky pickle when Kalabagan refused to play unless and until the organisers solve the last year's championship issue first.

A persevering Kalabagan, who never accepted the controversial tie-match defeat against Abahani that eventually cost them their maiden League title, had gone to the court to challenge the decision. They registered an off-the-field victory when the court declared the match in question as tie and asked the CCDM to determine the fate of the championship through a toss between the two contenders.

The CCDM managed to get a temporary stay-order that expired yesterday.

"We are expecting to get an extension of the stay-order shortly. Even if we obtain an extension, we will not be able to produce it before Sunday," said Mahmud. In that case Kalabagan would not be able to show any excuse to stay away from the League.

Many however feel Kalabagan is waging the battle only to buy some time as three of their key players are now drafted into the Under-17 team.

## Khagrachhari football

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Fourth Class Govt. Employees Association moved into the final of the Senior Division Football League beating Mairanga Upazila 2-0 at the local stadium yesterday.

Asif, who was haired from Dhaka Muktiyoddha, netted the first goal in the 28' minute while Pradip Tripura scored the second one also in the first half.

## Saurav fully focused

Cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kolkata

The Indian captain, had hoped to get some rest before the series against Australia.

However, he got everything, except probably rest during the last one month that he had been in his hometown. Other than appointments for interviews, Ganguly was busy with his sponsors, club and various other activities. Before, he left for Madras, he spoke about the forthcoming series.

Q: You had one-off Test against Bangladesh and a home series against Zimbabwe. Has it prepared your side for the tough series against Australia? Will India be able to put up a challenge against Australia?

A: Why not? In the last few months our performance have been quite satisfactory. We have played the finals at Nairobi, have won the Test against Bangladesh and the series against Zimbabwe. The boys have got the rest that they deserved. Then we will have a two-week camp. Overall, I feel that the series against Australia will really be very competitive.

Q: They are coming to India with a winning streak of 15 Tests.

A: I agree. But in 1998, we had defeated them. Even though, our performance in Australia was not very good, we defeated them at Nairobi. So they are not an unbeatable side.

Q: But the present side is quite

different from that of 1998.

A: Yes, this time Steve Waugh is coming with a tremendous side. All their cricketers are in very good nick. But even then, I cannot say that they are the favourites to win the series. We have a difficult job on our hands. At the same time, they will also be worried about us.

Q: How will you make up Kumble's absence?

A: It is very difficult to find a substitute for Anil Kumble. However, we have many promising cricketers in the side. They will have the motivation that if they can perform well they can establish a place in the Indian team. So they will try to perform at their best. This will also help the team. I am optimistic that someone definitely will come up.

Q: In 1999-2000, the Indian team had lost 0-3 to Australia. Sachin Tendulkar's team had also failed to perform well in the one-dayers. So, will this be a revenge series?

A: To tell you the truth one cannot really predict the outcome

SEE PAGE 15

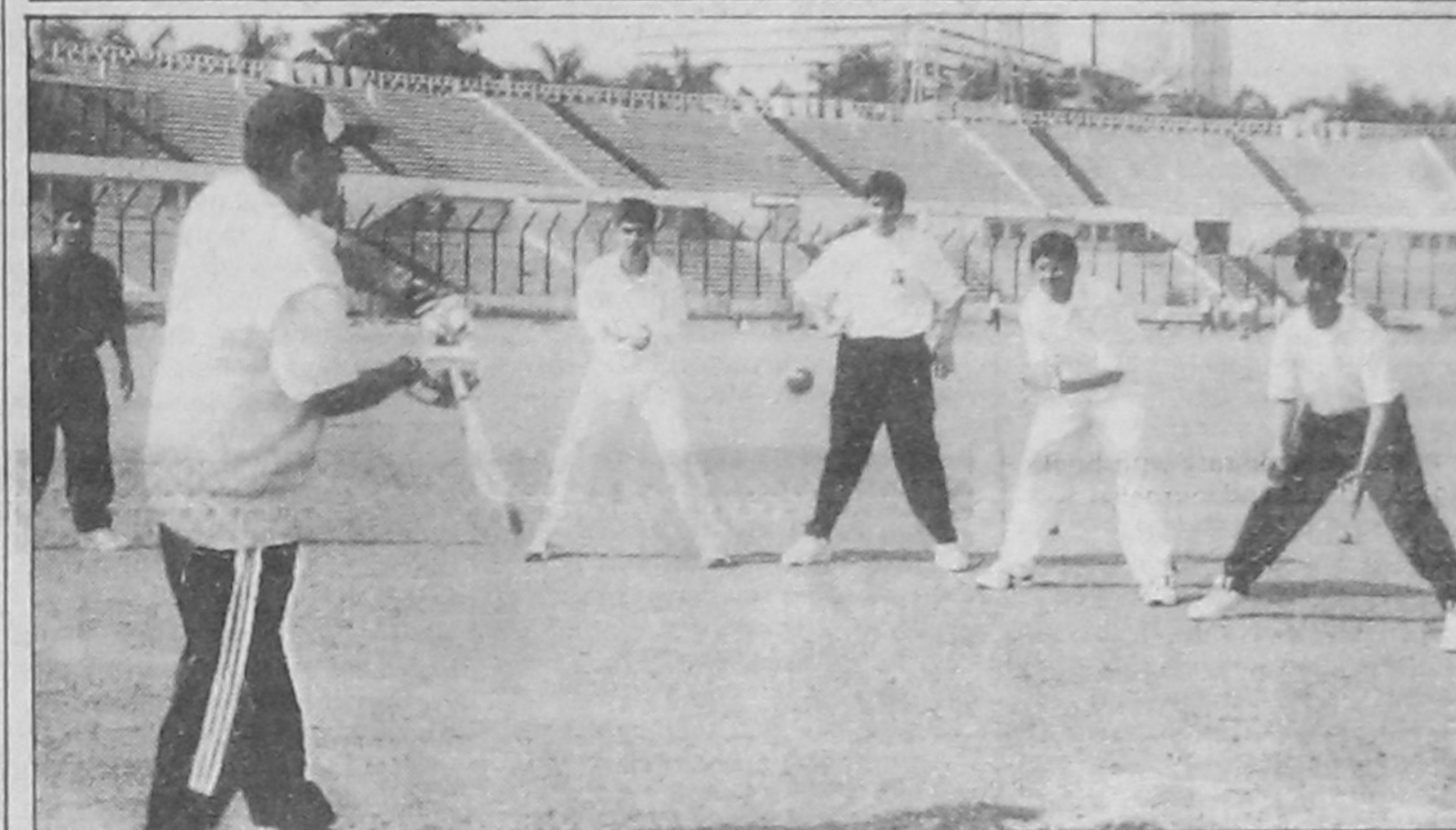
Q: So, in your opinion, the Australians are still not the best team in the world?

A: The answer to this question will only be available after their series against us here.

Q: Are you saying that because we are playing the Aussies at home?

A: All the teams usually play well at home. There is nothing new in that. However, the crux of the matter is that if you want to win you will have to play well.

SEE PAGE 15



Oman players practise catching.

## Tickets go online

REUTERS, Seoul

Football history will be made on Thursday when tickets to the 2002 FIFA World Cup will be made available to anybody in the world - as long as they have access to an Internet connection.

Co-hosts Japan and South Korea on Thursday hold separate ceremonies to kick off sales for the 32-team World Cup finals, considered by many to be the premier event of the sporting world.

And FIFA on Thursday will activate the tickets link on its web site ([www.FIFAworldcup.com](http://www.FIFAworldcup.com)) to allow anybody from anywhere in the soccer world to apply for a ticket.

"For the first time in history, every football fan in the world has an equal opportunity for the FIFA World Cup," said a notice on the tickets' link of the FIFA website.

With ticket applications expected to far exceed supply, a March 28 lottery will determine who gets to see the games.

FIFA Korea is planning to begin airing television commercials and electronic sign ads for the ticketing campaign from Thursday until March 14, FIFA Korea spokesman

Lee Sang-moo said.  
"We haven't got any complaints about ticket sales or ticketing procedures so far, but we are ready to answer to any of those if any comes up later on," Lee said.



The online ticket sale is one of several firsts about this Cup. It is also the first to be held in Asia and the first to be co-hosted -- by ancient rivals Japan and Korea who waged a bitter, expensive, and contentious campaign against

each other before FIFA in the end decided to let them both stage the games.

South Korea will sell 230,000 tickets over the next month at prices ranging from 60,000 won to 500,000 won (3-275 pounds).

In total, 740,000 tickets will be sold in South Korea, with a second round of sales from September 1 to October 31 and the remainder to be offered in the first half of 2002.

About 70 per cent of tickets will be sold to ordinary fans and the remainder to groups and sponsors, FIFA Korea said.

About 675,000 tickets will be sold from Thursday in Japan, with some 170,000 reserved for sponsors. A second round of sales will take place in Japan next year. FIFA, Korea and Japan combined expected to sell 3.18 million tickets.

"This is the one chance in my lifetime to see the World Cup because it is being played in Korea," said Kim Byong-soo, a 32-year-old computer engineer in Seoul. "I'm going to try to get tickets through the Internet."

"The website? Yes, it's here

SEE PAGE 15



Pakistan under-17 cricket team members (L) taking to the field for a practice session while a Kuwaiti youngster (R) honing his bowling skills as his teammates look on at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.



Malaysia cricketers jogging at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.