

2002 FIFA WORLD CUP KOREA JAPAN

3 5

days to go



## Did U Know?

The 13th FIFA World Cup was awarded to Mexico, who thus became the first country to host the competition on two occasions. However, the Mexicans were selected only as replacement hosts for the 1986 competition after the original choice, Colombia, announced in 1983 that it could no longer afford to stage football's greatest tournament.



## What to WATCH

**ESPN**  
Pakistan vs New Zealand  
Second ODI  
Repeat at 2:00 pm  
Western Union World Football  
Taped Version at 7:00 pm  
**Sportscentre Hindi**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm  
Cricket Programming  
Super Selector  
Taped Version at 11:00 pm  
SEE PAGE 15



## TALK TURKEY



**Steve McManaman**  
(Real Madrid's England int'l)  
"My goal was very important. It's not like scoring against any other team when you score against Barcelona."  
After scoring against Barcelona in the Champions League semifinal first leg.

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 169**

Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star. Win attractive prizes.

Competition closes at 8 pm April 26, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

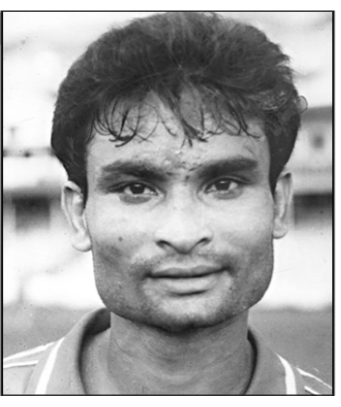
- Who clinched the Indian Wells Masters Series tennis title?  
Hewitt Henman Agassi
- Who won the Bangladesh Games hockey title?  
Dhaka BDR BJMC
- How many balls did Nathan Astle face to score Test cricket's fastest double century?  
1532 00
- Who lifted the Bangladesh Games football title?  
Chittagong Dhaka Army
- How many gold medals did Doly Akhter win in Bangladesh Games?  
Nine Seven Ten

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

# Naquib makes MSC tick

NITOL-TATA NAT'L FOOTBALL LEAGUE

**IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet**  
A double strike by former national striker Imtiaz Ahmed Naquib enabled Dhaka Mohammedan



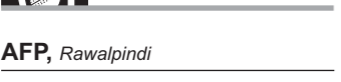
**IMTIAZ AHMED NAQUIB**  
Sporting Club to make a winning start to their Sylhet phase of the first round of Nitol-Tata National Football league yesterday. The 2-1 victory over Muktiyoddha Sangsad 2-1 at the Sylhet Stadium also was Mohammedan's first win of the League. Mohammedan increased their tally to 4 points from 2 matches while Muktiyoddha were left searching for their first point having lost

both games played so far. Yesterday's contest dominated mostly by the Mohammedan but the Muktis managed to create some pressure in the second half. After a goalless first half, the match came to life following the breather. Naquib, the veteran Mohammedan striker netted the first goal from a nice pass from Alfaj in the 73rd minute. However Dawn of Muktiyoddha equalized 12 minutes later. But Naquib ensured the victory four minutes from time after he took advantage of slackness in the Muktiyoddha defence and blasted the net with a powerful shot. Naquib was later adjudged the man of the match. Referee: R Alam.

**TEAMS**  
**MOHAMMEDAN SC:** Nizam Majumder, Jewel Rana, Masud Rana, Papel Mahmud, Faisal Ahmed, Arif Khan Joy, Sajedur Rahman Tushar, Basudev Mandal, Imtiaz Ahmed Naquib, Alfaj Ahmed, Monwar Hossain and Shahaj Uddin Tiku.  
**MUKTIYODDHA KC:** Kalyan Chaubey, Rajani Kanta Barman, Hasan, Al-Mamun, Pradip Kumar Poddar, Zillur Rahman, Rakib Hossain, Pradip Barua, Md. Salisu, Matiur Rahman Munna, S M Asif Yousuf, Ariful Kabir Farhad, Luthur Rahman, Mizanur Rahman Dawn and Ashrafud Kader Monu.

# McMillan ton goes awry

**Pakistan clinch series**



**AFP, Rawalpindi**  
Despite a sparkling century from Craig McMillan, Pakistan beat New Zealand by three wickets to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match one-day series at Rawalpindi stadium here Wednesday. McMillan made 105 as New Zealand notched up a formidable 277-5 in their allotted 50 overs, but his feat was matched by Pakistan's talented all-rounder Abdul Razzaq, who hit a belligerent career best 86 to steer the home team to victory. The 22-year-old from Lahore hit 10 fours and a six in his 92-ball knock while Younis Khan made 70 and Rashid Latif chipped in with 28 in the tension packed last five overs to see Pakistan home with 17 balls to spare. Pakistan started disastrously when Daryl Tuffey trapped opener Imran Nazir leg before wicket on the first ball of the innings and Andre Adams bowled Yousuf Youhana for three in the next over. Shahid Afridi in the company of Younis Khan added 73 off 78 balls for the third wicket before Afridi fell leg before to Scott Styris for 40. Razzaq and Khan enthralled the home fans with some brisk scoring as they added 93 off 101 balls to get Pakistan to 172 in the 31st over. New Zealand's leg-spinner

Brooke Walker then chipped in with Khan's wicket, bowling him for 70. Khan, who followed up his three half centuries in four previous innings, hit seven fours during his 92-ball knock. Razzaq continued to maul the visitors and added a further 46 with Inzamam-ul Haq who made 26. Pakistan needed 68 from the last 12 overs. Razzaq took 15 off one Tuffey over with a huge six before he was bowled by Styris with Pakistan still needing 26 off 45 balls. Wasim Akram was brilliantly run out by Lou Vincent for six but Latif and Saqlain reached the required target with an unbeaten 17-run stand for the eighth wicket. Earlier the 25-year-old McMillan held his team's innings together with two solid stands of 96 for the second wicket with Matthew Home and 92 for the fourth wicket with Adams. Home made 62 with seven fours while Adams knocked up 45, liberally spiced with six fours. McMillan, whose previous best of 104 not out was also achieved against Pakistan on his home ground of Christchurch in February last year, batted with aggression and took the attack to the home bowlers with some ferocious drives, cuts and pulls. He hit eight boundaries and a six off Shoaib Akhtar in his 116-ball knock. SEE PAGE 15



Abdul Razzaq, the Pakistan all-rounder, in full flow against New Zealand at Rawalpindi on April 24.

# BLAST FROM THE PAST



**BEGINNING OF A NEVER ENDING STORM:** This is Perhaps the most famous or infamous goal ever to have been scored in FIFA World Cup history. In the quarter-final between Argentina and England in 1986, Diego Maradona beats Peter Shilton to a high ball and scores... with his hand! The legendary number ten later refers to it as the "hand of God" by way of a justification. The goal unlocked the door to the semi-finals and eventual success for Argentina.

# Asian U-20 soccer Bangladesh beat Sri Lanka

**UNB, Dhaka**

Bangladesh youth team made a good start in the Asian under-20 football championship beating Sri Lanka 2-0 at the Peoples Stadium in Karachi yesterday. Ujjal put Bangladesh ahead in the 7th minute off a Kaisar cross from the right wing while Parvez scored the second goal with a powerful left-footer in 72nd minute, according to a message received here by Bangladesh Football Federation.

Bangladesh placed in Group-5 will face Maldives in their second match on April 27 and meet Pakistan on April 29 in the last group engagement. TEAM Zia, Rony, Shawkat, Aminul, Khamser, Kallol, Parvez (Dalim), Kaisar, Ujjal (Babu), Faisal and Arnan.

# BCB's U-19 squad for Kolkata meet

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced yesterday an 18-member BCB U-19 development squad for the All India U-19 Invitation Inter State Cricket Tournament to be held at Kolkata from April 27 to May 6. SQUAD Ziaul Hossain, Md. Rubaiyat Huq, Dhiman Ghosh, Golam Rahman Chowdhury, Kazi Tarikul Islam, Shahriat Nafees Ahmed, Jahurul Islam, Kafi Khan, Arif Hossain, Kamrul Islam, Naeem Islam, Arafat Sunny, Meer Ifi Khirul Islam, Asif Newaz, Nazim Uddin, Jahangir Shah Badsha (Manager), Carlton SV Bermardus (Coach), Shahidul Islam, (Liaison Officer).

**ITINERARY**  
Date Venue Teams  
Apr 27 ECDCS Bangladesh vs Hyderabad  
Apr 29 ECDCS Bangladesh vs UP  
May 1 FOS Bangladesh vs FOS  
May 2 ECDCS Bangladesh vs Assam  
Semifinal: May 3  
Venue: Salt Lake Stadium  
Final: May 6 (D/N)  
Venue: Salt Lake Stadium

# Pabna cricket

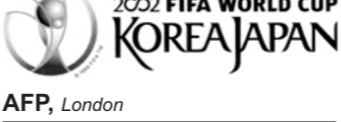
**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna**

Ishwardi Cricket Club defeated Jugantar Club by five wickets in the Pepsi First Division Cricket League at the Pabna Edward College ground yesterday. Winning the toss, Jugantar batted first and scored 139 runs all out in 41.2 overs. In reply, Ishwardi reached the target of 176 runs for five wickets in 34.1 overs.



**Nitol-Tata National Football League**  
Dhaka Abahani vs T&T Club  
Venue: Sylhet Stadium

# Neville for Neville?



**AFP, London**

Gary Neville's foot injury could mean a World Cup reprieve for brother Phil. Phil Neville looked likely to miss out on a second World Cup, following his disappointment in 1998, until Gary was stretchered off at Old Trafford in Wednesday's 2-2 Champions League draw at home to Bayer Leverkusen. The Manchester United full-back has broken the fifth metatarsal bone in his left foot and is expected to be out for six to eight weeks. This leaves Gary in a desperate race against the clock to be fit for England's opening World Cup game against Sweden on June 2. If he does not make the England plane to Japan, then Phil, who came on as a substitute for his injured brother against Leverkusen, could be the player to benefit. Leeds defender Danny Mills' was probably assured a place even before Gary's injury, which means it

is probably a fight between Phil and Liverpool's Jamie Carragher for the role of reserve right-back. Ironically, Gary's injury is similar to that suffered by his best friend David Beckham a fortnight earlier. The England skipper broke the second metatarsus in his left foot against Deportivo La Coruna and is expected to be back within four weeks. Gary is two weeks behind Beckham and a leading sports scientist claims he is in real danger of missing the start of the World Cup. Professor Tom Reilly, director of research at the Institute for Sport and Exercise Sciences at John Moores University in Liverpool, said: "It's hard to be precise without knowing where exactly the break is on the fifth metatarsal and whether or not it is a clean break. "However six to eight weeks is generally quoted and that's how long it takes for the metatarsal bone to knit. "That timescale would take us up to the early stages of the World Cup. "The first game is on June 2 and he certainly looks borderline for that one."



Gary Neville, the Manchester United defender, is being stretchered off the pitch after breaking a bone in his left foot during the Champions League semi-final against Bayer Leverkusen on April 24.

# Murali sets 600 target



**INTERNET, Melbourne**

Sri Lankan spin bowler Muttiah Muralitharan has arrived in Australia for treatment on his injured shoulder - and voiced the aim of taking 600 Test wickets before he retires.



**MUTTIAH MURALITHARAN**  
Muralitharan suffered a slight dislocation and torn ligaments in his left shoulder during the recent Sharjah Cup tournament and has flown to Melbourne to consult surgeon David Young. The rest of the Sri Lankan squad are keeping their fingers crossed

that he will recover in time to play some part in the forthcoming three-Test series in England. It was initially thought he would only miss the opening game at Lord's but coach Dav Whatmore has admitted that it will be three weeks before Muralitharan can take off the special sling he is wearing. "At the moment we cannot say he will be here in England to play on any given date," he said earlier this week. Muralitharan, meanwhile, is hoping his trip to Australia will help speed his recovery. The 30-year-old currently has 412 Test wickets to his credit and plans to carry on playing for at least five years. Assuming he has no long-term problems with his shoulder, he has plenty of time to pass the 500 milestone and move on towards 600. "I would like 600 wickets, that's about another 180. It's hard to take wickets. It depends on how good you play," he said. Muralitharan, meanwhile, has praised Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne, who currently has 450 wickets. "I think he is the greatest spinner because wrist spin is very hard to bowl. It's difficult to control the ball - he has bowled the best."

# CUP CORNER



**AFP, Tokyo**

All matches involving the Japanese team at the World Cup will be shown live on a wide screen at the National Stadium in Tokyo, organizers said Thursday. Spectators will be able to watch the games on the liquid crystal screen, seven metres (23.1 feet) by 18 metres (59.4 feet), at the stadium which has a capacity of some 55,000 seats. Punters will be charged 2,300 yen (17.7 dollars) a ticket. Japan will play Belgium on June 4 at the Saitama stadium, north of Tokyo, Russia on June 9 at the Yokohama stadium, the venue for the final, and Tunisia on June 14 at the Nagai stadium in Osaka, a quarter-final venue. The National Stadium has staged major international football matches, including the Inter-Continental Cup between South American and European champions. Saitama also plans to stage a similar event using a 14.5 metre by 7 metre screen at the "Saitama Supporters Village," which will open next Saturday. Japanese World Cup organizers once made a campaign promise to set up "virtual stadiums" with an 80 by 35 metre dome-shaped screen carrying three-dimensional television pictures of games in progress in other grounds. But no officials have mentioned "virtual stadiums" after South Korea and Japan were chosen to host the finals jointly.

# NIGERIA STICK TO UNPOPULAR STRIPS

**Lagos**  
Nigeria's playing strips for the World Cup in June may not have been a big hit with the public here but officials told AFP they are sticking to them. "The designs and colours of the kits have been approved by the association," said Edozie Enemu, marketing chief of the Nigeria Football Association (NFA). "We are not aware of anything negative against the kits. What we know is that they are of high quality and made of reflecting fabric to help the players cope with the heat." The lemon-coloured strips, first used by the 'Super Eagles' this month in the World Cup warm-up against Scotland in Aberdeen, have been largely criticised for not being the same green as that on the national flag. Officials told AFP the two versions of the World Cup strips will be worn by the team in each half of a friendly here against Kenya on May 4 for fans to better appreciate them.

# CHARTERED PLANES TO CARRY SQUADS

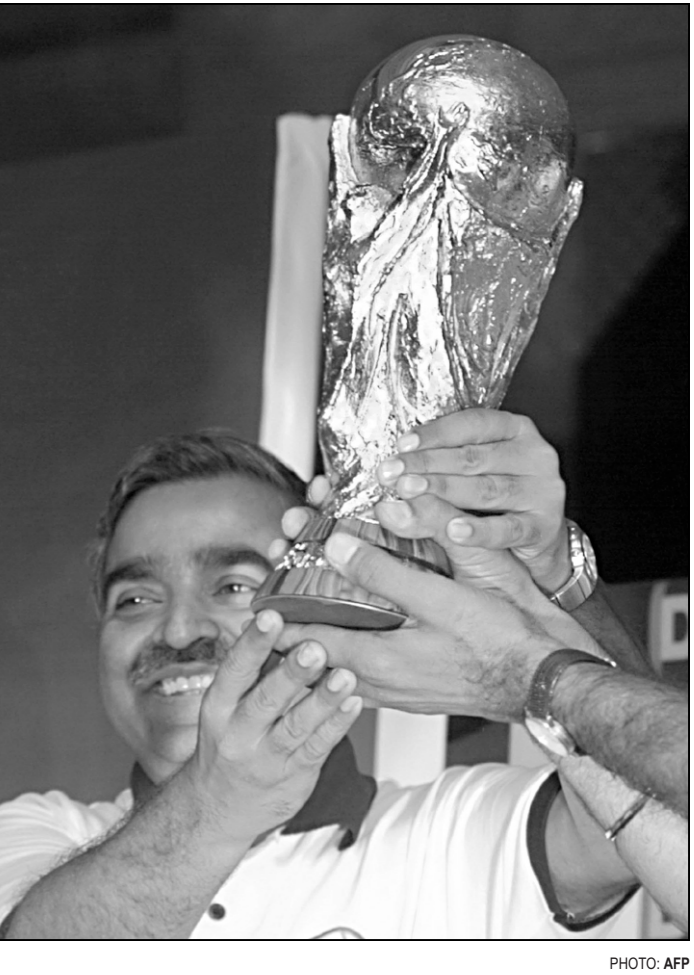
**Tokyo**  
Japanese organizers of the World Cup finals have chartered three planes for transfers of the participant teams in the preliminary round in Japan, officials said Thursday. "We have reached an agreement with all the teams which will play three games in the preliminary round. Three planes are enough to meet each team's request," Japan Organising Committee director Junji Ogura said. "We just need to adjust details, because some teams want to wait for players who will be late, for doping tests, while some others want to move, leaving those players behind. "But we haven't yet decided on anything for the teams who will be beaten in the preliminary round and leave for their countries. We are too humble to ask about the case in which they are beaten," added Ogura. Ogura said organizers have almost reached an agreement about transfers of the teams who will move to Japan after playing the preliminary round in South Korea. The officials said all the preparations are going smoothly, including hotel reservations, plane and train tickets, and other services, although donation are still shorter at 1.3 billion yen (10 million dollars) than they have expected.

# SUPPORT RUSSIA OR.....

**Moscow**  
Russian football fans will have to pay through the nose if they want to cheer on their side in this summer's World Cup as the official ticket sales body blatantly ignores FIFA price guidelines, the Moscow Times reported Wednesday. Russia's Football Tourist Agency (FTA), which holds a monopoly for the sale of the Russian quota of World Cup tickets, is charging up to 1,380 dollars for the cheapest seats which have a face value of 198 dollars, the English-language daily reported. FTA general director Alexander Chernov denied the seven-fold mark-up, telling the paper the tickets for the games in Japan and South Korea next June were being sold for only double the face value. If confirmed, even this would be against FIFA regulations which stipulate that tickets must be sold at face value with no more than a 10 percent mark-up to cover administrative costs. The paper said that phone calls to FTA sales representatives had repeatedly elicited the response that tickets would cost at least 1,380 dollars. It quoted travel agencies as saying they were having to pay the high prices and pass on the cost to the fans. One fan who complained to the FTA said it was "as if they don't want fans to go," the Moscow Times said.

# MORE FRENCH FOR JAPAN

**Tokyo**  
The French presence in Japan's football World Cup is growing in addition to the 1998 World Cup. SEE PAGE 15



**INDIA TASTE WORLD CUP:** Manoj Kumar, Regional Business Director of Gillette India, holds the FIFA World Cup trophy at New Delhi yesterday. The coveted trophy arrived in India yesterday as part of a global tour to selected countries.