



## Did U Know?

Brazil has the distinction of playing more number of matches in the World Cup finals.



### ESPN

English Premier Football League  
Blackburn Rovers vs Liverpool  
Repeat at 11:00 am  
UEFA Champions League  
Deportivo La Coruna vs AC Milan  
Taped Version at 1:30 pm  
Cricket Programming  
Super Selector  
Repeat at 3:30 pm

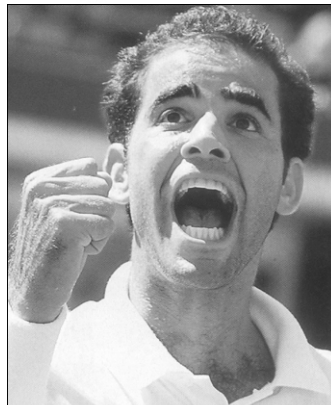
English Premier Football League  
Leeds United vs Arsenal  
Live at 4:55 pm

Manchester City vs Liverpool  
Live at 7:55 pm

Birmingham City vs Newcastle United  
Live at 10:30 pm  
Primera Liga  
Betis vs Barcelona  
Live at 1:30 am (Sunday)

### STAR Sports

Cricket Programming  
Super Selector  
Repeat at 10:00 am  
Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
Repeat at 10:30 am  
Asia Sport Show  
Int'l Sport News  
Taped Version at 11:30 am  
English Premier Football League  
Charlton Athletic vs Man United  
Live at 7:55 pm



**Pete Sampras**  
(American tennis legend)  
"There were moments where I was struggling to continue to play and, you know, my wife really supported me and kept me positive and kept me upbeat."  
After winning the US Open.



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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Oct 11, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- What was Bangladesh's score against Australia in the ICC Champions Trophy?  
102    82    129
- Who won the National Bank Premier Division football title?  
Muktijoddha    Abahani    Mohammedan
- Who won the Toyota Princess Cup tennis title?  
Hingis    Capriati    Serena
- Who is the fastest man in the world?  
Greene    Montgomery    Edwards
- Who are the defending champions in European Champions League?

Name .....

Class..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

## WHIZZ KID-180 winner

**Masudur Rahman**  
(Adarsha Biddya Niketon, Manikdi, Dhaka Cantt)  
Please produce your ID card and an attested passport size photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sports Desk of The Daily Star at 7:30 pm on October 6.

# Bhutia buries B'desh

## Korea, China enjoy goal rush

14th Asian Games  
**BUSAN 2002**

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh failed once again to overcome South Asian neighbours India at the Asian Games.

The national booters were easily outclassed 3-0 in their opening Group C match of the 14th Asian Games football tournament in Ulsan yesterday.

Playing on the Asia's biggest stage after a gap of 12 years, Bangladesh fell apart after three second half goals by Baichung Bhutia and Potsang Singh.

In two earlier meetings, Bangladesh lost 3-0 in the 1978 Eighth Asian Games in Bangkok, in which they were making their debut. And four years later in New Delhi the score was 1-0.

Bhutia broke the deadlock straight after the break when the 26-year-old striker latched on to a cross and headed the ball below the body of Bangladesh goalkeeper Biplob Bhattacharyya.

Bhutia, who has the experience of playing for English Second Division Bury, added a second goal in the 65th minute with a smart left-foot effort.

The lethal Indian took advantage of some slack defending by the Bangladesh who were steadily beginning to lose concentration as the game wore on.

Potsang put the result beyond doubt a minute later. He scored from an impressive chip with his right foot which curled past the hapless Bhattacharyya.

Bhutia attempting to complete his hat-trick, fired wide of the post in the 70th minute. A better option would have been to pass to a teammate.

Bangladesh last took part in the Beijing Asiad way back in 1990. They lost to Saudi Arabia and Japan by big margins.

They play World Cup finalists China in Masan on Monday.

AFP adds: South Korea comfortably launched their quest for a first Asian Games football gold for 16 years.

Korea's Under-23 team, fielding three members of the side which reached the World Cup semifinals in June, were never troubled in dispatching the Maldives 4-0.

Goals for Choi Tae-uk, after six minutes, Park Dong-hyuk and skipper Lee Dong-gook made the game safe for Korea before Ibrahim Sabah Mohamed scored an own goal in the dying minutes.

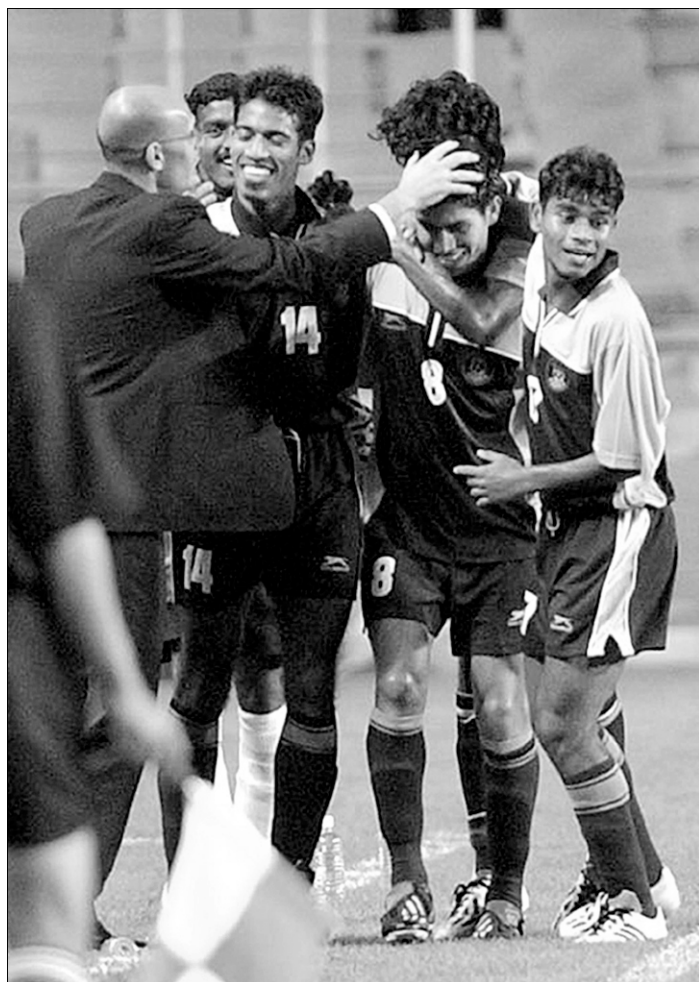
The Maldives were unable to register a single shot on target in the match and will struggle to fare any better in their remaining Group A

matches against Oman and Malaysia.

Oman are second behind Korea in the standings after downing the Malaysians 1-0 courtesy of a 63rd-minute goal by Taki Mubarak Al-Siyabi in a stormy game that saw

Korean referee Kim Jong-Sik, and both Guvanch Ovekov and Yagmyr Annamyrdov were booked later on.

If the Turkmens' rough-house strategy was meant to intimidate China, it failed, however.



Indian football coach Stephen Constantine congratulates Potsang Singh (No. 8) after the latter scored the third goal against Bangladesh in their Asian Games encounter yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

both sides finish with 10 men.

The most impressive performance of the day however came from China's youthful squad, who swatted aside a cynical Turkmenistan 4-0.

China, who are chasing their maiden football gold medal in the Asian Games, were in control from the outset, passing the ball around confidently and finding gaps in the Turkmenistan defence almost at will.

The central Asians responded physically and were lucky to finish the match with 11 men after a string of brutal challenges on the skilful young Chinese side.

One wild first-half lunge by attacking midfielder Vladimir Bayramov on Chinese keeper Yang Jun went unpunished by North

Xu Liang opened the scoring on 14 minutes from a free-kick, before Yan Song doubled the scoreline shortly before half-time with a burst into the penalty area and a cool finish.

Turkmenistan started the second half in the same way as they had the first, tackling nastily but with little effect. Wang Xinxin making it 3-0 with another well-taken goal.

A rash of substitutions disrupted the flow of the game in the final stages, but China were still composed enough to add another in the final minutes.

This time it was Sun Xiang who ran the Turkmenistan defence ragged, surging past two defenders before clipping his shot past Harchik.

## SA tour Cricketers Cruise

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh began their first-ever tour of South Africa with a convincing six-wicket victory over NFO Eleven in their opening practice match in Randjesfontein yesterday.

According to a telephonic message received last night, opener Hannan Sarkar hammered 81 as the visitors, chasing NFO Eleven's modest 196 in 50 overs, reached the target 197 in 46 overs.

Hannan's partner Javed Omar scored 41 while acting skipper Al-Shahriar contributed 35 runs.

Apart from Khaled Mashud, who missed the game because of a cold, vice-captain Habibul Bashar, Khaled Mahmud and Monjurul Islam were all rested.

Electing to bat, NFO were dismissed for 196 in 48 overs with former South African Test player Daryll Cullinan top-scoring with 49.

Right-arm seamer Taposh Baishya and leg-spinner Alok Kapali shared six while medium-pacer Talha Jubayer bagged two wickets for the tourists.

Bangladesh will play another one-day warm-up game against the South Africa Country Districts in Nelspruit tomorrow.

## Shah Altaf chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman, International Master Enamul Hossain Rajib and Fritz7, an advanced computer programme, were sharing the lead in the Shah Altaf Associate FIDE Rating Chess Tournament after winning their respective second and third round matches at the Bangladesh Chess Federation auditorium yesterday.

After beating International Women's Master Rani Hamid in the morning, Zia went on to beat Khandakar Aminul Islam in the afternoon session. Rajib disposed of Enayet in the second round and then checkmated Shafique in the next round.

However, Fritz7 pulled off two major results against two of Bangladesh's Olympiad-bound players.

First it toppled IM Reefat-bin-Sattar and then proved too strong for Grand Master Niaz Murshed.

Zia, Rajib and Fritz7 have equal three points.

IM Abdullah Al-Rakib, Kayes Hasan and Saifuddin Lovelu were following with 2.5 points each.

The fourth round of the nine-round Swiss League meet will be held at the same venue today from 3pm.

## 'Boys need to be mentally tough'

REUTERS, Johannesburg

Bangladesh, on the losing side in 12 of their 13 Tests, have talent but are not yet mentally tough enough, coach Mohsin Kamal said on Thursday.

"Bangladesh have the talent, but they have yet to show the required capability on the field," Kamal said on the team's arrival for a two-Test tour against South Africa.

"We're lacking in guts and aggression. My job is to identify those mentally tough enough to play at this level."

Bangladesh suffered heavy defeats that the ICC Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka to Australia and New Zealand. They were dismissed for 77 by New Zealand in Colombo on Monday, their second lowest total in 55 one-day internationals.

## Nat'l bank football

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Mousumi Eleven outplayed New Ekota Club 4-0 in the opening match of the National Bank Second Division Football League at the Khulna Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half with a goal scored in just the second minute.

## DSA Cup soccer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The semifinals of the Meghna Cement DSA Football Cup will now be played on October 1. Poor ground condition forced the Senior Division Football Committee to shift the date from September 28.

The first semifinal is between Winners Club and Ulka Club. The final will take place on October 5.

# Aussies in Lankan spin

ICC CHAMPIONS TROPHY  
SRI LANKA 2002

AFP, Colombo

Muttiah Muralitharan grabbed 3-26 as Sri Lanka exposed Australian batting weaknesses against spin to boost their chances of qualifying for

the final of the ICC Champions Trophy tournament here on Friday. Muralitharan completed the demolition job after off-spinners Kumar Dharmasena (2-30) and Aravinda de Silva (1-16) had made early inroads, as Australia were dismissed for 162 in the day-night semifinal.

Tail-ender Shane Warne top-

scored with 36 in a feeble Australian batting performance, followed by Adam Gilchrist (31) and Damien Martyn (28).

The winners of the match will meet India in the day-night final on Sunday.

Australia, under pressure for the first time in the tournament, choked against a tidy spin bowling on a slow pitch where the ball hardly came on to the bat and posed problems for their stroke-makers.

Sri Lanka were well-served by their spinners, giving just nine overs to fast bowlers Chaminda Vaas and Pulasthi Gunaratne as Australia failed to last their entire 50 overs after electing to bat.

Worse, Australia's running between wickets also left a lot to be desired against an agile Sri Lankan fielding as Martyn and Darren Lehmann (nought) were run out.

Gilchrist flourished for a brief spell against pacemen Vaas and Gunaratne, often hitting over the top to help his team race to 49 in less than seven overs.

The panic set in when Sri Lankan skipper Sanath Jayasuriya pressed his spinners into the attack after five overs.

Aravinda struck with his fifth delivery when he bowled Matthew Hayden (13), who stepped out to swing the bowler over mid-wicket but missed the line and was bowled.

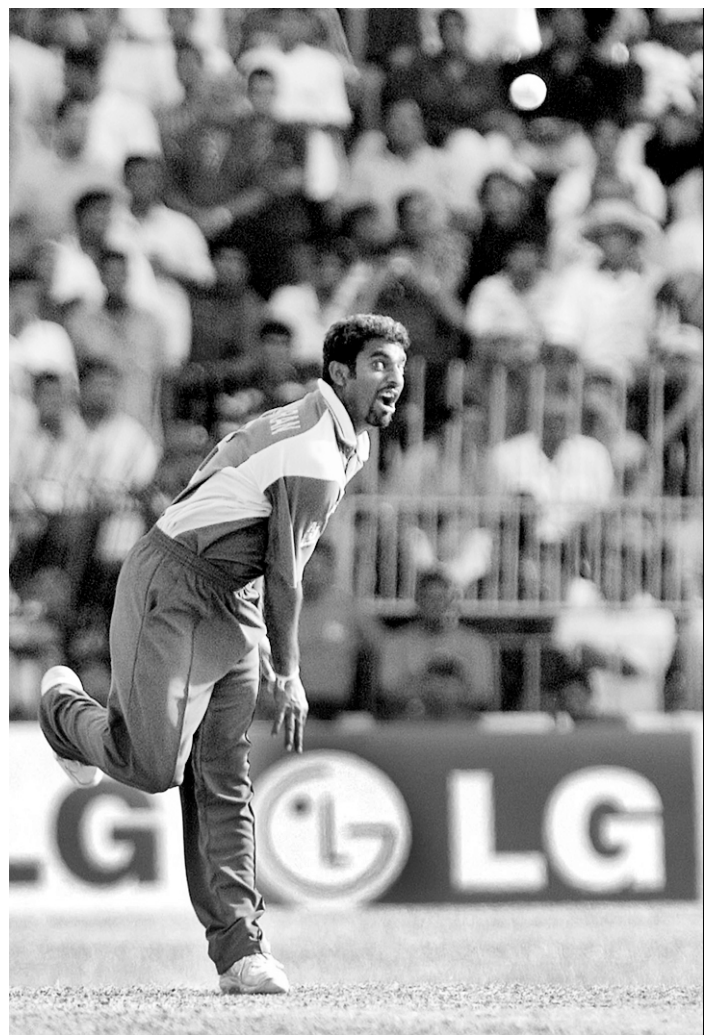
Australia's woes had begun and they soon crashed from 49-0 to 57-4 after six more overs of spin from Dharmasena and Aravinda, backed by smart fielding.

Gilchrist mistimed a drive off Dharmasena and was caught by Marvan Atapattu at mid-off after hitting six fours in his 24-ball knock.

Skipper Ricky Ponting was clueless against spin, scoring three off 22 balls before being adjudged leg-before off Vaas by TV umpire Rudi Koertzen of South Africa.

Direct-hits from fielders Jayasuriya and Russel Arnold then accounted for Lehmann and Martyn, both declared out by the TV umpire.

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Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan lets go yet another vicious delivery during their ICC Champions Trophy semifinal against Australia at Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday. The off-spinner grabbed three wickets.

PHOTO: AFP

# Tendulkar believes it

ICC Cricket World Cup  
SOUTH AFRICA 2003

REUTERS, Colombo

Sachin Tendulkar feels India have both the talent and desire to win next year's World Cup in South Africa.

Asked the question, he responded: "Yes, our side is very strong, very talented. It is also very hungry, that is the key."

As India prepared for the ICC Champions Trophy final, he told reporters on Friday: "This side is producing good results. The World Cup is still five months away. So it is important we continue to retain form up to the event and throughout the World Cup."

The 29-year-old said it would be a huge advantage that most of the players had already played on bouncy South African pitches.

India have recently won a one-day series in West Indies as well as a tri-series in England coming into the Champions Trophy, mainly due to the batting of their younger players and their improved fielding.

The team is aiming for its maiden title after losing to New Zealand in the final in Nairobi two years ago. On Sunday they will play either world champions Australia or Sri Lanka.

In Nairobi, India had upset Australia and South Africa before all-rounder Chris Cairns braved a knee injury to hit an unbeaten 102 to lift

the Kiwis to victory. "In Nairobi we put up a good total, but Cairns batted really well, played big shots," Tendulkar said. "We've got to stick to our basics. It is going to be a pressure game."

India's progress in Colombo has been marked in particular by the feats of young batting trio Virender Sehwag, Mohammad Kaif and Yuvraj Singh, the last two also

contributing through their athletic fielding.

Tendulkar played down comments by former West Indian batting great Vivian Richards that India would be drastically weakened without him.

"I would say the whole team is playing well. Individuals matter but

only to an extent. It's eventually a team sport," he said.

A victory in the Champions Trophy would be India's third major success, after the 1983 World Cup and the world series in Australia two years later.

Meanwhile, Tendulkar says he would still prefer to open the batting in one-day internationals, conceding that he is not entirely comfortable coming in at number four.

"Personally, given the choice I will open the innings," the world's leading batsman said.

"That is where I have felt most comfortable and that is where I have scored the maximum number of runs. Yes I would like to open, but the team's requirement is different."

The 29-year-old has made most of his world record one-day aggregate of 11,537 runs and 33 centuries after being promoted to open eight years ago.

Tendulkar said the team management's decision to push him down the order had forced him into a change of style.

"It is a completely different role...there (as an opener) the bowlers hadn't bowled a ball, I hadn't faced a single ball, I had a chance to dictate my terms. Now when I go in, the terms are set for me."

"But I am willing to adapt because the team needs it."

Promoted to opener in a 1994

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

# Watson fitting in fine

Cricket

REUTERS, Colombo

Australian all-rounder Shane Watson is relishing the challenge of international cricket, even though he is being asked to fill different roles from the ones he occupies at state level.

Watson has established himself in the one-day line-up by batting in the lowest middle-order with the brief to push on in the final overs. With the ball he is being asked to keep things tight after Glenn McGrath and Jason Gillespie's opening spells.

It is a far cry from Watson's roles for Tasmania where he bats in the top order and is viewed as one of the state's prime strike bowlers but he said the change of emphasis was helping to improve his all-round game.

"It's not frustrating, in fact it's really enjoyable," Watson told this news agency as Australia prepared for Friday's ICC Champions Trophy semifinal with Sri Lanka.

"It's great to be able to develop different parts of my game, not just batting at four and bowling first change as I do for Tassie (Tasmania)."

"I've batted at three or four all my junior career so from that point of view it's been a blessing in disguise to work on another aspect of my game," he added.

With the bat, the 21-year-old Watson has rarely had the chance to build an innings for Australia. Usually batting inside the final 10 overs, his mission is to hit fours and sixes and rotate the strike, something that has been hard work technically and mentally.

"It's not so much the hitting, it's the mental thing of hitting the ball in the air," he said.

"Ever since I was a little fella the idea was not to hit the ball in the air as it gives you a higher chance of getting out so that is something I've

had to develop.

"It's a question of having the confidence to hit over the top and knowing where you want to hit the ball. The idea is that 90 per cent of the time you hit in the air it's going where you want it to go," Watson said.

Watson's main strength has always been his bowling, the result of three sets of stress fractures in his back that restricted his bowling as a teenager.

But it was his bowling that brought him to national attention last season when he claimed 11 wickets in a day against his native state Queensland, under the watchful eye of chairman of selectors Trevor Hohns, to help secure a place on the

team.

"Our only concern has been the all-rounder position and we've rotated several players but Shane has come in and I've been really happy with his progress over the last few weeks," said Ponting.

For Watson the World Cup is almost within touching distance just two years after he was playing in the under-19 version of the event in Sri Lanka, going home as Australia's leading run-scorer in the tournament.

"I'm trying not to think too far ahead but obviously it's a major goal of mine. It's the all-round package the side is looking for and there are a lot of little things I have to improve on to get there," he said.

His aggressive style with the ball is suited to first-class cricket but he has fared less well at domestic one-day level where he proved extremely expensive.

But when he came into the Australian one-day side in South Africa in March his role was to close down the middle orders of the innings with disciplined line and length bowling.

"With my bowling I've just been trying to bowl really smart," he said. "I have to get my runs per over down and my role is simply to tie it up and

let the others guys get the wickets.

"If I can bowl six balls in a row where I want them, well, that's what I'm working towards and to go at three or four an over and no more is my big goal."

Watson's impressive temperament was quickly on show at senior level when he reached three figures in his debut innings for Australia with a six, against South Africa A in Port Elizabeth in March.

Quiet progress in the one-day series followed before he responded to the chance of time in the middle during a recent match against Kenya with an unbeaten 77 to win the game.

In the Champions Trophy he has been chipping in almost unseen with quiet, useful contributions and captain Ricky Ponting singled him out for praise on the eve of the semifinal with Sri Lanka, as he looked ahead to the World Cup in southern Africa.

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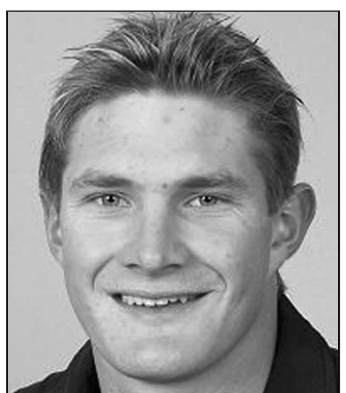
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SHANE WATSON

tour of South Africa.



Grand Master Ziaur Rahman (L) and Aminul Islam think over their next moves during their second round engagement of the Shah Altaf Associate FIDE Rating Chess Tournament yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR