## **Div II hockey**

Bachelors Club and Dhaka Young Star Club registered victories in the Green Delta Second Division Hockey League that began at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday

Bachelors demolished Rayerbazar AC 9-1 while Dhaka Young defeated East End Green

Fifteen teams split into three groups are taking part in the league. Top two teams from each group will play in the super league.

The participating teams are: Group A - Bachelors Club, BPWD SC, Shantinagar Club, Dhaka

Hockey Club and Rayerbazar AC. Group B - Dhaka Young Star Club, Uttara Hockey Club, Combined SC, Shisu Kishore Sangha, East End Green Club.

Group C - Udity Club, Dilkusha SC, Cantonian SC, Tejgaon Agragami Club and Raktim Sangha. Wednesday's matches: Udity Club vs Raktim Sangha and BPWD vs Dhaka Hockey Club.

### Bangla sports website soon

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

The www.bangladesherkhela.com, a Bangla sports website, will be available on the internet from November 1, 2002.

The website will provide all the latest news on local and international sports and will also offer an archive full of valuable information about Bangladesh sports.

A press conference in this connection was held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday with Kazi Shahidul Islam, chairman www.bangladesherkhela.com, in the chair. SM Shahab, the executive

## Ekram elected ASPU VP

director of the website, was also

PRESS RELEASE, Dhaka

Ekram Uzzaman has been elected vice-president of the Asian Sports Press Union (ASPU) during its 11th Congress held in Busan on September 28

He was elected for a four-year

The ASPU is the highest body of Asian sports writers and journalists union affiliated by AIPS (Interna-

## **President's** Cup no more

REUTERS, Tashkent

Uzbekistan has confirmed it will no longer stage the 550,000 dollars President's Cup tournament.

mass one, therefore this tournament will not be held any longer,"

### Ri delights **DPRK**

AFP, Busan

30 Indivisi-

director

Forman

Triomphe

33 Sweater

31 Film

Sydney Olympics in a higher weight

## A barren end

CMICC CHAMPIONS TROPHY SRI LANKA 2002

Cricketers, officials and fans alike were Monday tearing their hair in frustration after the weather gods ruined the climax of the ICC Champions Trophy tournament.

The biggest cricket event after the World cup, featuring 12 teams and 16 matches over three weeks, ended in a damp squib on Sunday when rain washed out the replayed final between India and Sri Lanka.

"Not having a winner after so many matches is very frustrating, said Sri Lankan captain Sanath Jayasuriya. "But can anyone fight

That was, however, not the reason why the tournament, organised by the International Cricket Council (ICC) to raise funds for the sport's development around the world, will be quickly forgotten.

Strange scheduling norms where teams had almost a week off between matches, lack of crowds at games not involving the hosts and lop-sided results in the league stage made it a boring affair.

"Now I know why people say Test cricket is the real thing," said Colombo-based colleague student Ranjan Abeyasekera. "One-day matches can be so boring.'

Lowly teams like Bangladesh. the Netherlands and Kenya were no match for the established giants. raising fears that next year's World Cup in South Africa will be a letdown with many one-sided

Australian Open chief executive

Paul McNamee says he is confident

U.S. Open champion Pete Sampras

would compete in next year's

Sampras, who claimed an

unprecedented 14th career Grand

Slam title at Flushing Meadows last

month when he beat Andre Agassi,

hinted in New York that he may bring

his glittering career to a close at the

31-year-old to try and add to the

Australian Open titles he won in

1994 and 1997. He also anticipates

world number one Lleyton Hewitt

McNamee, however, expects the

Australian Open in Melbourne.

Tennis

REUTERS, Sydney

end of the year.

and Canada joining these three teams at the World Cup, as many as 26 of the 42 league matches will feature an established team against

Of the 16 Champions Trophy matches, only two went down to the wire: South Africa's last-ball win over the West Indies in the league and India's 10-run defeat of the South Africans in the semifinal.

Pakistan lost interest in the tournament after their loss to Sri Lanka in the first match on September 12. With the Dutch being the third team in the group, the loser had no chance of fighting back.

Similarly, Australia were assured of a semi-final berth after defeating New Zealand in their first game, although both teams had to complete the formality of playing against Bangladesh.

Not surprisingly, most of the attention focussed on what the players did off the field than on it.

Security officials battled with players to enforce the "access control" regulations ordered by the ICC in the teams' hotel. West Indian manager Rickey

Skerritt accused police bodyguards of "high-handed and authoritative" behaviour after a move to crack down on women entering the play-Police said in a letter to the ICC

that three women were found in the rooms of Skerritt and his computer operator, Garfield Smith, in violation of the strict ICC access control Skerritt later said that all visitors

to his suite were persons of "impec-

Pete going down under

being the man to beat after an

illness-induced first round elimina-

tion at his home grand slam at the

base with him during the U.S. Open,

was absolutely intending to play at

the Australian Open," McNamee

told a news conference at the

Australian Open tournament launch

this (next) year," McNamee added

off the Richter scale, the whole

support. I mean, you've got to keep

your fingers crossed for the number

26 Open has risen by 10 per cent to

18.2 million Australian dollars (9.8

million dollars), to be split evenly

Prize money for the January 13-

of the Wimbledon champion.

one player in the world.

"Lleyton won't have chicken pox

"I think if he gets a sniff, it will go

"Pete clearly, when I touched

beginning of this year.

revealed that three women who had been invited to his room had forged identity papers

After the row, the West Indies management asked for police guards to be withdrawn, a move refused by the security authorities.

The Pakistanis were up in arms when it was reported that their defeat in the tournament opener had come under the scanner of the ICC's Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU).

The ACU, charged with preventing players from hobnobbing with bookmakers, denied Pakistan was in the dock and clarified that it had summoned tapes of all matches played in the tournament.

#### **SCOREBOARD**

Complete scoreboard of the rain-hit replayed day-night final between India and Sri Lanka in the ICC Champions Trophy cricket tournament at the Premadasa Stadium on

SRI LANKA: 222 for 7 (M Jayawardene 77, R Arnold 56 not out, A de Silva 27; Zaheer Khan 3-

INDIA Mongia c J'dene b Vaas Sehwag not out 25 Tendulkar not out Extras: (b-1 nb-4 w-1) Total: (For 1 wkt in 8.4 overs) 38 Fall of wicket: 1-6

Bowler 1 24 4 0 13 0 Fernando Result: Match abandoned due to rain. India and Sri Lanka were declared the joint champions.

between the men and women

Pollard said.

said on Tuesday.

fourth-round classic.

Tennis Australia president Geoff

year with Serena Williams on

course to win a career Grand Slam

in singles (and) Lleyton Hewitt

looking to be the first Australian in 27

years to lift the men's singles title,"

an Australian Open media release

beat Russia's Marat Safin in this

year's final after American Jennifer

Capriati defeated former champion

Martina Hingis in the women's final

Safin had beaten Sampras in a

50th anniversary of becoming the

youngest ever winner of the men's

singles title at age 18 by playing in

Ken Rosewall, 68, will mark the

Sweden's Thomas Johansson

"It promises to be a landmark

## Lanka turn to Interpol

AFP. Colombo

Sri Lankan police Tuesday sought help from the Paris-based Interpol in an investigation into match-fixing during the just concluded ICC Champions Trophy tournament.

The move followed the discovery that two women who were entertained by West Indies cricket team manager Ricky Skerritt had forged identity papers.

A third woman had produced an Australian driving license and the authorities here wanted to track down her background details, a police spokesman said.

"With the discovery of the forged papers carried by the women we are now expanding the inquiry to find out if they were involved in match fixing," the spokesman said.

He said the police were not pointing fingers at any particular team or plavers.

However, the procedures laid out for the tournament required them to rule out the involvement of the three women found in Skerritt's room and that of the West Indies computer operator Garfield Smith in matchfixing.

Police suspected that bookmakers had frequented the team hotel and prostitutes may have been used to make contact with the visiting players.

The tournament ended Monday in a washout with finalists India and Sri Lanka sharing the 300,000dollar prize money after rain forced the match to be abandoned.

The International Cricket Council used the Champions Trophy tournament as a dress rehearsal to eliminate or at least minimise match fixing during next year's World Cup

## Gambill's Japan stay ends

AFP, Tokyo

Japanese hope Takao Suzuki drew first blood in the men's singles with a stunning victory against US 10th seed Jan-Michael Gambill at the Japan Open on Tuesday.

The Japanese number one, who stormed into the quarterfinals here last year beating former French Open champion Michael Chang, got off to a good start for a repeat performance with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 win in the

"Honestly, I thought it would be tough when I saw my draw against Gambill. I've never played him, never practised with him before, but I saw him in Hong Kong and I know how he plays," said Suzuki. "I planned to play my own game

on my serve and try to put pressure

on his serve with my return. I did it

very well in the third set," added Suzuki. who won three Challenge titles earlier this year. For Suzuki, ranked a lowly 204th against Gambill's 43rd this week, it was his first singles win on the Tour

this season after crashing out of the first round at Los Angeles, Washington and Hong Kong. Steady rain brought by Typhoon Higos postponed other first-round

action on the outside courts to Wednesday and matches were played only on the Ariake Coliseum centre court with its roof closed.

Suzuki's compatriot Akiko Morigami, ranked 125th, also caused a mild upset by beating 81st-ranked Rossana Neffa-De Los Rios of Paraguay 6-4, 6-2 on the

#### Windies in India FROM PAGE 13

Mohammad Kaif and Yuvraj Singh have transformed the team into a keener outfit, although they may have to wait for a while before they can break into a batting line-up boasting Virender Sehwag, Tendulkar, Ganguly, Vangipurappu Laxman and in-form Rahul Dravid.

The bowling department, a perpetual worry, also looks more balanced. The experienced Javagal Srinath is expected to return from Test retirement and left-arm paceman Zaheer Khan is growing in stature with every match. The slow bowlers, off-spinner

Harbhajan and leg-break bowler Kumble, are always a handful at Kumble. India's most successful

current bowler with 333 scalps, is best known for capturing all 10 Pakistani second innings wickets at New Delhi in 1999. Harbhajan, nicknamed "The

President's XI, led by Kaif, in a

Turbanator", grabbed 32 Australian wickets in last year's three-Test series. The visitors take on Board

three-day game starting in Bangalore on Friday before the first Test in Bombay on October 9. **SQUAD** Carl Hooper (Captain), Gareth

Breese, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Pedro Collins, Cameron Cuffy, Mervvn Dillon, Chris Gayle, Ryan Hinds, Wavell Hinds, Ridley Jacobs, Daren Ganga. Jermaine Lawson, Mahendra Nagamootoo, Darren Powell. Marlon Samuels. Ramnaresh Sarwan.



WE LOVE SOUTH KOREA TOO: A section of South Korean supporters show their affection for Bangladesh at a venue of the 14th Asian Games in Busan yesterday.

# Afghans squashed

14th Asian Games **S**BUSAN 2002

Japan and Qatar went on a goal

rampage in the Asian Games football tournament on Tuesday as the battle for quarterfinal places intensi-Japan swept past Bahrain 5-2 to

keep up their perfect start in Group D while Qatar boosted their chances of making the last eight by handing out a 11-0 demolition of Afghanistan in Group E. A devastating three-goal burst by

the Japanese midway through the first half settled an entertaining scrap at Ulsan's World Cup stadium, though Bahrain fought back well in the second half.

The win leaves Japan favourites to qualify for the quarter-finals as group winners, and sets up a likely last eight battle with China

Yohito Okubo, Satoshi Nakayama and Daisuke Matsui were all on target in the first half hour while Okubo made it 4-0 shortly before half-time.

Bahrain gave Japan a few frights by hitting two quick goals through a penalty from Rashid Abdulrahman Saif and a strike by Salman Isa Ali before Tatsuya Tanaka completed the scoring for Japan in the last

Having lost 10-0 to Iran in their opening game, Afghanistan were on the wrong end of another humiliation when Qatar romped home 11-0. Sayd Ali Bechir grabbed four

goals while Abdulrahman Abuhamda, with two, Mohamed Al-Blooshi, Fawaz Daoud Al-Khater, Mufleh Saghayer Al-Shammari, Waleed Hamaza Rasoul and Wesam Rizik Abdulmajid completed Qatar are second in Group E

behind Iran who struggled to beat Lebanon 2-0 thanks to an Ali Daei

penalty and a freak goal straight from the corner by Saeid Lotfi.

"It was not easy in the first half and we played better in the second half," said Iran's Croatian coach Branco Ivancovic. "The lack of fitness of the

Lebanon team told later in the game and that helped us to win." In Group F, Kuwait will go headto-head with North Korea to decide

the winners. Kuwait, runners-up to Iran in Bangkok four years ago, struggled to beat a valiant Hong Kong side 1-0 with Bashar Abdullah grabbing the

utes to record his fourth of the Meanwhile, North Korea were too strong for Pakistan and ran out

only goal of the game after 13 min-

Only the six group winners are guaranteed places in the last eight with the two best runners-up also making it through.



GETTING SHIRTY: Iran's Hossein Kabei (L) and Lebanon's Ossama Haidar have other ideas than going for the ball

## Hingis' sad birthday



AFP, Moscow

Fifth-seeded Martina Hingis crashed out of the 2.24 million-dollar WTA Kremlin Cup tournament after

suffering a 6-2, 6-2 first round defeat at the hands of local favourite Nadia Petrova on Monday. Hingis, who won this tournament two years ago, was sidelined this year for more than three months

with a knee injury and looked slightly

rusty at the carpet courts of

Moscow's Olympic indoor tennis stadium and failed to perform at her Petrova started the match with an immediate break, clinching a 2-0 lead but Hingis, who celebrated her 22nd birthday on Monday, broke

back to level at 2-2. However, the 20-year-old Russian broke twice again and won the opening set in just 18 minutes.

Petrova, who stands 169th in the WTA rankings, broke twice early in the second again to gain a 3-0 lead before Hingis broke back to chalk up her first point in the set.

However, Petrova broke again in the seventh game to a 5-2 lead minutes before she won the set and the match in just 45 minutes.

"I missed the major part of this season and still trying to find my best plaving." Hingis said after the match. "It was my first indoor tournament after the injury and definitely not my best day today.

"I had certain problems with my

service, while Nadia (Petrova) served pretty well today, preventing me from catching the rhythm of the

Another local crowd favourite

Tatiana Panova also reached the second round after ousting Anne Kremer of Luxenbourg in straight sets 7-5. 6-3 in one hour 20 minutes. Panova, 20th in the WTA ranking, was trailing 0-3 in the opening set

but managed to tighten her game to level at 3-3. In the 12th game she broke

Kremer's serve again to take the set In the second set Russia's 26year-old underlined her dominance,

clinching an early 4-0 advantage which she kept on to win the set and the match to face fourth seed of the event Amelie Mauresmo of France in the second round. Bulgaria's Magdalena Maleeva, twice champion here in 1994 and

1995, had little trouble in seeing off Anna Smashnova of Israel in straight sets 6-1, 6-2 in just 58 min-In the second round Maleeva will

face top seed of the topurnament Venus Williams of the United States. who was gifted a first round bye by the organising body of the event. In the ATP section of the tourna-

ment Albert Costa of Spain, who was seeded third here, was also eliminated from the tournament following a three-set defeat at the hands of a Frenchman Nicolas Escude.

Costa was leading 5-3 and 40-0 in the opening set but his 26-yearold rival managed to survive three

set points before he upped the tempo, winning four consecutive games to take the first set 7-5 in 53

Costa levelled at one set all, breaking early in the second to clinch a 3-0 lead and he needed just 41 minutes to win the second set 6-3. But Escude, who is currently

The French Open champion

ranked 48 in the ATP race, picked up more steam in the deciding set, winning it 6-1 in just 25 minutes

## Saurav not satisfied

REUTERS, Colombo

India captain Saurav Ganguly was disappointed his team did not have the chance to win the ICC Champions Trophy outright after rain forced the abandonment of their re-run final against Sri Lanka.

"I am disappointed," he told reporters after the game was washed out and the teams declared joint winners

"We have played exceptionally well and it was great to see the fight we have showed here," Ganguly

India were 38-1 chasing 223 for victory on a slow Premadasa Stadium pitch when play was halted in the ninth over and the match was

### Government officials said it had served its purpose to boost the sport in the Central Asian state. "(Uzbekistan's) sports movement has been given a powerful impetus and it has become a truly government spokesman Malik Kadvrov told the news agency. A tearful Ri Song-Hui presented North Korea with their first gold medal of the Asian Games in world record fashion in the women's weightlifting here on Tuesday. Ri, the silver medallist at the 1998 Asian Games and 2000 China's Wu Peng reacts after winning the men's 200m butterfly event during category, shed 0.25kg - equivalent to a can of Coke - to lift gold and

the 14th Asian Games in Busan yesterday. Wu broke the Games' record with l of Japan's Takashi Yamamoto with a time of

establish a new world record of 102.5kg in the snatch. a time of one minute 56.63 ahead 1:57.18 and Takeshi Matsuda with						
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McKinley

46 Youngster

top

44 Eggs

G YLGAQ BOO SBRQDYSBOO ADDC SGSR KLGOD FOBXGAM. YLDX'ZD BOKBXR CZGSSOGAM Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A COUPLE OF FENCERS GET HUNGRY IN THE AFTERNOON, DO THEY STOP AND GO TO LUNGE?

**CRYPTOQUIP** 

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S-equals B The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

## N Koreans on hit-list

the legends event at the Open

Games here.

South Korean police said Tuesday they were investigating reports of planned terrorist attacks against North Koreans attending the Asian

A ferryboat moored here and accommodating more than 300 North Korean spectators for the Games may be one of the terrorist targets, police said. They gave no details about the

timing or the nature of the alleged attacks, however "We are considering deploying extra police troops for their safety,

an official, identifying himself only

as Yim, said at the Busan police.

The North Korean vessel has been guarded by some 310 South Korean security forces since it arrived at the nearby Dadaepo dock on Saturday. Police said they had received

intelligence reports that a group of

disgruntled former South Korean espionage agents were planning to attack the North Korean ferry, the Mangyongbong No. 92. Officials at the Asian Games Organising Committee said that they had received no specific terrorist threat against the Games, spec-

tators, athletes or sporting facilities

However, they said they were taking

the reports about alleged terrorist

#### plans seriously. BD stare

Innings against Bangladesh in their limited-overs practice match at the Soweto Cricket Club around on Tuesday

SOUTH AFRICAA L Bosman c Mashud b Taposh 18

4-233. 5-268 Did not bat: T Tsolekile, D Terbrugge, A Nel, M Zondeki M R 0 10 1 49 10 0 0 30 0 Rafique 0 49 0 30 BANGLADESH: Al Shahriar, Hannan Sarkar, Anwar Hossain,

Fall of wickets: 1-41, 2-44, 3-146,

## FROM PAGE 13

A Hall b Taposh A Prince c Alok b Taposh Van Jaarsveld c Taposh b Sanwar50 N McKenzie c Sanwar b Taposh 77 J Rudolph c not out 11 R Peterson not out Extars: (b-4, lb-2, w-5, nb-1) Total: (For 5 wkts in 50 overs) 279

Habibul Bashar, Sanwar Hossain Khaled Mashud, Alok Kapali, Khaled

Mahmud, Mohammad Rafique,

Taposh Baisya, Moniurul Islam.