

Div II hockey

UNB, Dhaka
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.

Bangla sports website soon

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

Ekrum elected ASPU VP

PRESS RELEASE, Dhaka
Ekrum Uzzaman has been elected vice-president of the Asian Sports Press Union (ASPU) during its 11th Congress held in Busan on September 28.

President's Cup no more

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

Ri delights DPRK

AFP, Busan
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.

A barren end



AFP, Colombo
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.

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 Abeysekera.

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 let-down with many one-sided matches.

With fellow minnows Namibia 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 a lesser side.

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.

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 rules.

Skerritt later said that all visitors to his suite were persons of "impeccable character", but police

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.

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 300,000-dollar prize money after rain forced the match to be abandoned.

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 first round.

W Indies 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, Vangipurapu Luxman and in-form Rahul Dravid.

BD stare

FROM PAGE 13
Innings against Bangladesh in their limited-overs practice match at the Soweto Cricket Club ground on Tuesday.



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



AFP, Busan
Japan and Qatar went on a goal rampage in the Asian Games football tournament on Tuesday as the battle for quarterfinal places intensified.

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

Tennis

REUTERS, Sydney
Australian Open chief executive Paul McNamee says he is confident U.S. Open champion Pete Sampras would compete in next year's Australian Open in Melbourne.

N Koreans on hit-list

AFP, Busan
South Korean police said Tuesday they were investigating reports of planned terrorist attacks against North Koreans attending the Asian Games here.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer
ACROSS
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21 Not minding words
24 Karaoke prop
25 Overwhelming desire
26 Hot-air balloons?
30 Indivisible
31 Film director
32 — de Triomphe
33 Sweater style

Pete going down under

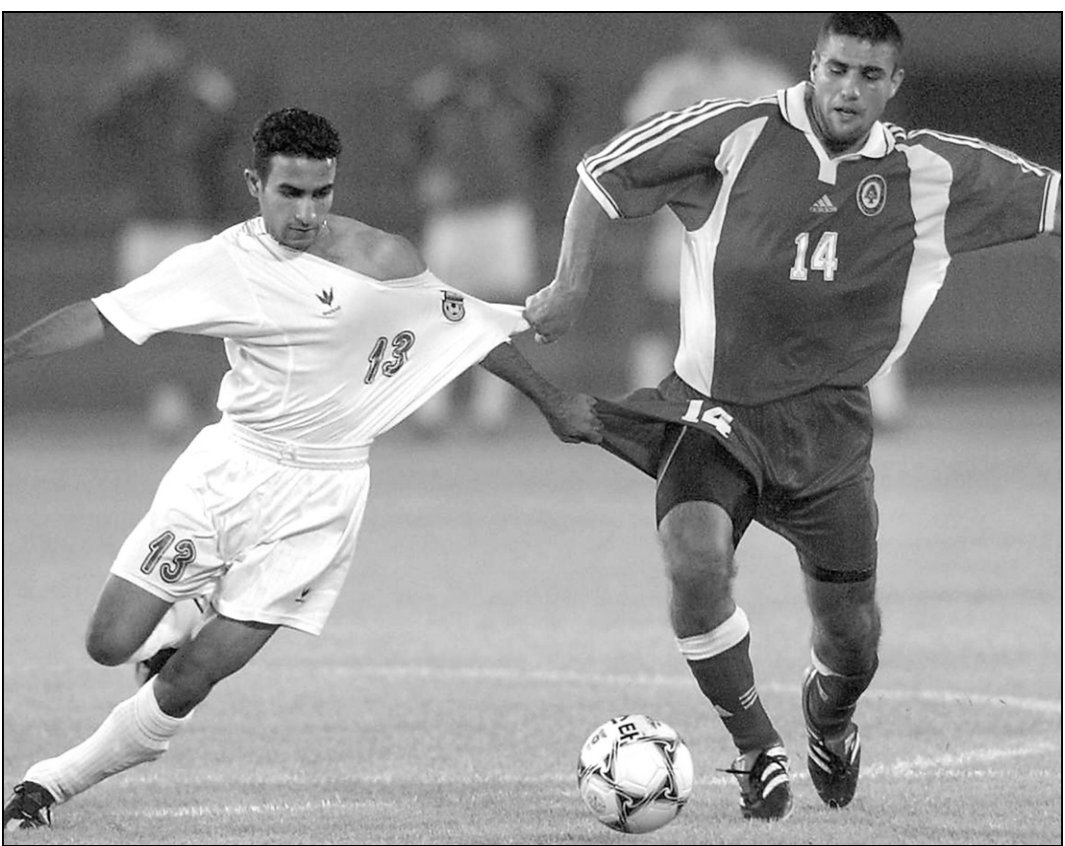
being the man to beat after an illness-induced first round elimination at his home grand slam at the beginning of this year.

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

Hingis' sad birthday

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

Another local crowd favourite Tatiana Panova also reached the second round after ousting Anne Kremer of Luxembourg in straight sets 7-5, 6-3 in one hour 20 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.