



Japan midfielder Keisuke Honda (R) scores the second goal against Scotland during their Kirin Challenge Cup match in Yokohama on Saturday.

Japan see off Scotland

Football

AFP, Yokohama

An own goal and Kensuke Honda's strike in the final 10 minutes gave Japan a 2-0 win over a second-string Scotland in a friendly international here Saturday.

Wolverhampton Wanderers defender Christophe Berra slotted into his own net from a cross by Japan defender Yuichi Komano on 83 minutes.

The Blue Samurai went further ahead on the stroke of injury time when Honda, a VV Venlo midfielder, slammed in a rebound off Catania striker Takayuki Morimoto's shot inside the box.

"We could not find our offensive rhythm in the first half, struggling with our basic pass-and-move tactics. But we started to get better toward half-time," Japan coach Takeshi Okada said.

It was Japan's first win in three international matches against Scotland, having drawn twice before.

Japan, who have qualified for the World Cup, face Togo in another home friendly in Miyagi next Wednesday.

Okada rested several key players,

including midfield lynchpins Shunsuke Nakamura of Espanyol and Yasuhiro Endo of Gamba Osaka, just two days after his squad outclassed Hong Kong 6-0 in an Asian Cup qualifier at home.

Scotland manager George Burley has brought an experimental squad to Japan, missing 10 regulars including Manchester United midfielder Darren Fletcher and Tottenham fullback Alan Hutton.

"It was a good workout for us," Burley said. "Japan had a lot of possession and played nice football but didn't have too many chances. But we are disappointed about giving away the own goal."

Before the match at the Yokohama International stadium, a minute of silence was observed in memory of former Scottish Football Association president David Will who died of cancer on September 24.

The Blue Samurai kept possession and squandered several scoring chances in the first half.

Blackpool midfielder Charles Adam's 30-metre free kick went wide in the 31st minute and Kawasaki midfielder Kengo Nakamura shot into the side of the net from close range from a Honda cross four minutes later.

FC Tokyo's Naohiro Ishikawa, who has scored 14 goals in 23 J-League matches this season, slotted a cross from Kashima Antlers defender Atsuto Uchida into Scotland goalkeeper Craig Gordon's arms on 37 minutes.

Nakamura was on target again in the 41st minute.

Ishikawa fed a cross from near the baseline to Nakamura in front of the net but his shot was stopped by Celtic defender Stephen McManus.

Morimoto, 21, who has already scored three goals in Serie-A games this season, was called in on 56 minutes to make his international debut.

In the 62nd minute, Gordon punched away Honda's 20-metre free kick.

Adam picked the ball in front of the goal five minutes later but blasted it over the net.

Scotland blew another chance in the 73rd minute as Burnley striker Steven Fletcher almost carried the ball past surging Japan goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima. Kawashima fell but kicked the ball away from Fletcher's feet.

"The ball rolled into the right place at the right time," a smiling Honda said of his goal. "I just had to stick it away."

Yuvraj on the ramp

ANI, Mumbai

Middle-order batsman Yuvraj Singh walked the ramp for renowned fashion designer Manish Malhotra in Mumbai.

Singh walked the ramp at the fashion show organised during the launch of 'The Collective', a store that has clothes and accessories of several luxury brands under one roof.

Models sashayed the ramp for exquisite men's collection of designers Rohit Bal, Richard James and Manish Malhotra.

Singh, who dazzled in Malhotra's collection, said that walking the ramp second time was better.

"I had an idea. Since, it was not the first time. Manish Malhotra is an outstanding designer. I have worked with him earlier as well," he said. Models also sashayed the ramp in Rohit Bal's collection named 'Badmaash'.

A collection for the Autumn Winter '09 season, the silhouettes ranged from old French to modern India and followed an extremely vivid and vibrant party mood.

Several television stars and Bollywood actors like Amrita Arora, Jackie Shroff and Rahul Roy were present at the launch of the store.

Banderas in MotoGP

AFP, Madrid

Spanish actor Antonio Banderas will next season launch a motorcycling team in Moto2, the replacement for the 250cc MotoGP category, he told television channel TVEI on Friday.

The team is likely to be called either 'Banderas Racing Team' or 'Team Antonio Banderas' but the identities of its riders are not yet known.

"I will try to give my best to the riders in this new category so that they can work in the best conditions," said Banderas, famed for his roles in the films The Mask of Zorro and Philadelphia, from his Los Angeles residence.

The 48-year-old film star has owned motorbikes for over 30 years and is known to take a great interest in the fortunes of Spanish MotoGP riders Jorge Lorenzo and Dani Pedrosa.

Cilic fells

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The Spaniard stood a perfect 14-0 in the capital after winning the 2005 China Open and claiming the Olympic gold medal in 2008.

But Cilic, who lost just two points on serve in the first set, ripped through it with six aces and set up match points on two separate occasions in the eighth game of the second with untouchable serves.

The desperate Nadal saved them both, breaking to stay alive at 3-5 but Cilic broke back for the upset victory.

The loss was Nadal's ninth of the season against 58 wins and five titles.

Nadal was playing this week for the first time since the US Open due to an abdominal muscle pull.

'Sree needs to change'

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Allan Donald, the former South African fast bowler, has said that if Shanthakumaran Sreesanth wants to play for India again he needs to change his habits. Donald, 42, who recently ended his term as coach at Warwickshire, the county where Sreesanth played earlier this English summer, was blunt in his appraisal of the fast bowler, saying it was high time he backed up his showmanship with bowling form.

"Just in terms of his desire, and if he has got any ambitions of playing for India for a long, long time, he should change his habits," Donald told Cricinfo. Donald arrived in India on Thursday and will shuttle between Delhi and Hyderabad as part of the commentary team for the Champions League Twenty20.

He said he had recommended Sreesanth's name to the management at Warwickshire to make up for the absence of genuine fast bowlers like Brett Lee and Morné Morkel, who were busy on national duties earlier this summer. "He really bowled some good spells and got wickets in clusters of two here and there, and in terms of the outcome of the game it played a massive part," Donald said.

Sreesanth started his campaign on a prosperous note, picking up a five-for in his first game. Thereafter, he continued with the good work, though he never hit full throttle, before returning to India with returns of 22 wickets in 10 games.

Donald was well aware of Sreesanth's abilities with the ball and his excitable nature, having witnessed the Indian's spectacular performance in the Johannesburg Test in 2006, where he took five wickets and helped India to a dra-

matic victory. "We wanted someone who could overstep the line a little bit and we know how Sreesanth can do that. But I knew I could control him, and we chatted about it quite a lot."

Donald said they had extensive talks about the training routine, and reckoned Sreesanth had plenty of areas to work on. "First of all, his training habits are not good and the way he goes on to the field need to change. Then, he doesn't put enough time on specifics."

Donald also said Sreesanth needed to work on his attitude, and his tendency to lose the plot when things didn't go his way. "I know he is aggressive, he is passionate and I know he just boils over with emotions in the heat of the battle. There is nothing wrong with that but I just think sometimes he lets himself down."

At the start of the Irani Cup last week, Sreesanth declared his intentions of working hard to keep himself calm. By the end of the game he had been fined 60 per cent of the match fee for using abusive language against Mumbai's Dhawal Kulkarni.

Donald said coaches and teammates were bound to get frustrated with Sreesanth's temperament, and that he was likely to fall out of line with the team management as well. "It is frustrating in a way. I do have a problem with that because it is not the real him," Donald pointed out. "It is false in the way he conducts himself. You need to be in serious form to back your body language. Off the field he is a little kitten -- he speaks the right thing, comes and says 'sorry for this and that'. But my message to him is he cannot come off the field and apologise. It is too late."

Regarding Sreesanth's bowling technique, Donald has only one concern -- that his front arm comes down too fast down. "He has got a slight technical glitch where he sits back and doesn't really use his front arm well, which makes him swing the ball a bit early."

Woods awaiting Rio

Golf

INTERNET, undated

Tiger Woods called it "a perfect fit" and PGA Tour President Tim Finchem hailed it a "great day" for golf after the sport was added to line-up for the 2016 Olympic Games.

Golf and rugby sevens were added to the Olympics, from Rio de Janeiro in 2016, after a vote of members at the IOC session in Copenhagen.

Woods and many of the golfers taking part in the President's Cup team competition this week will be among the medal contenders when the sport returns to the Games for the first time since 1904.

"I think it's great for golf," 14-times Major champion Woods said. "It's a perfect fit for the Olympics, and I think we are all looking forward to golf getting into the Olympics."

"Having talked to other athletes who have gotten a chance to experience the Olympics, they have absolutely loved it and had the greatest time."

An Olympic gold medal might well be the crowning achievement for world number one Woods, who will be 40 in 2016 when 18-year-old Japanese sensation Ryo Ishikawa will just be hitting his prime.

Young talents such as Ishikawa, fellow teenager Danny Lee of New Zealand and 20-year-old Briton Rory McIlroy could be the new generation at the top of the golf rankings.

"As a golfer, I am honoured," said Ishikawa, the youngest golfer to compete at a President's Cup.

After the meeting with Butt, Afridi downplayed the

"By having golf as a part of the Olympics, golfers will be more interested in the Olympics and then the sport of golf will get noticed more as well. I am looking forward to playing golf in the Olympics."

However the news that golf was returning to the Olympics was bitter-sweet, coming too late for some golfers to realise their golden dreams.

"It's great for golf, I don't know if it's great for me or not because I'll be 43 and I might be over the hill by then," said American Stewart Cink, who won his first major at The Open in July.

Already one of the world's most popular sports, golf's return to the Olympic family is expected to open up new markets.

"This is a great day for the sport of golf," declared Finchem. "I think the trajectory of growth for the game globally will be significantly enhanced."

"When you consider that over 100 countries will now invest in the sport to grow the game... it will catapult the level of growth, particularly in Asia, Eastern Europe and South America."

"Secondly, I think golf in the Olympics is going to strengthen the image and texture of the game. I think it is going to be more recognised as a truly athletic endeavour."

The news was also welcomed by the European Tour.

"This is a proud and historic day for our sport. For golf to be associated again with the Olympic Games is a perfect fit in terms of honour and integrity, pride and passion, sportsmanship and goodwill," tour chief executive George O'Grady said.

"The Olympics provide a special dream for the athletes of today and tomorrow and now golf can share in that dream."

Afridi may lead Pakistan

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Champions Trophy and which apparently got worse when he played after taking painkilling injections," one source said. Afridi was deputy to Younus in the Champions Trophy and is also Pakistan's Twenty20 captain.

After the meeting with Butt, Afridi downplayed the

speculation and said the

injury to Younus was not serious and he should be fit for the series in Abu Dhabi and Dubai starting November 3. "Younus is recovering well from the injury and I think he should be fit to lead Pakistan," Afridi said.

Afridi was critical of the statements made by a parlia-

mentarian Jamshed Dasti that

the national team might have under-performed deliberately against Australia and New Zealand in the Champions Trophy. "The statement by Jamshed Dasti was not good for Pakistan's image in the world and such statements should be avoided at all costs," he said.

Wari rope in four

SPORTS REPORTER

Wari Club singed up four players on the fifth day of the inter-club players' transfers for the Premier Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Wari roped in Mohammad Nadim, Rabiul Islam, Lemon Hossain and Abu Sayeed Samsuddin Abedin -- all four from Barnak Samaj.

The transfers started on October 6 and will continue up to October 15.

KP's claim

INTERNET, undated

Kevin Pietersen has described missing the bulk of England's Ashes series win as "a blessing in disguise".

An Achilles injury was the latest blow in a tough year for Pietersen, which began with him losing the England captaincy after he expressed doubts in writing about then-coach Peter Moores to the England hierarchy. There followed a tour of the Caribbean, with Andrew Strauss and new coach Andy Flower in control.

"It was frustrating," Pietersen told The Independent. "I put into writing all my suggestions, as I was asked to, and [Andrew] Strauss has got the benefit of all that."

He added: "I've just had to watch it unfold this summer, which has been extremely hard for me, so maybe it was a blessing in disguise for me to be injured and away from everything so I could try to get my hunger back, because it certainly was dwindling."

Pietersen feels part of Strauss' success is down to his stand against Moores.

"He has a coach he can work with," said Pietersen. "I never had that."

"I didn't have the power or authority to run the team. I never had that as England captain."

Pietersen said he was no longer interested in the captaincy, adding: "I loved it, I enjoyed it, but now I leave it to Strauss, who's doing such a great job."

"Mentally I've left it. I respect Strauss too much to talk about the captaincy."

Massa eyes 2010 return

INTERNET, undated



Formula 1

Felipe Massa has all but ruled out a return to the cockpit at this season's Formula One finale in Abu Dhabi, despite medical

reports claiming that his left eye has now fully healed after the qualifying accident he suffered in July's Hungarian Grand Prix.

The Brazilian had expressed an interest in completing his recovery from the 'life-threatening' injuries he sustained at the Hungaroring before the 2009 campaign was over but, as with another planned return at Monza, he has now admitted that it is unlikely to happen.

The admission comes despite the Ferrari team confirming that Massa's vision has recovered fully, and that he will make an initial return to the cockpit of an F1 car when he takes the wheel at Fiorano on Monday. The 2008 season runner-up has been at Ferrari's Maranello base since the beginning of the week, and regularly working in the team's F1 simulator.

Ferrari's claims about its driver's health, which appeared on the team's official website, come after Massa flew to Paris for neurological and ophthalmological tests at Pitie Salpetriere Hospital. The examinations, conducted by the FIA, continued on Saturday, but doctors are already satisfied with the Brazilian's progress, especially considering that his eyesight was rumoured to have been in danger immediately after the incident.

"The first outcomes are positive, especially the ophthalmological exam which confirmed that Felipe, who arrived with his personal doctor Dino Altmann, has recovered the functions of his left eye by 100 per cent," Ferrari said, before confirming that Massa would be in his native Brazil for next weekend's penultimate grand

PCB against WC

FROM PAGE 17

the tense relation between the two countries and not keen to take any risks. Pakistan has also indicated it would be more comfortable playing maximum number of matches in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh." The Nation quoted PCB insiders, as saying.

Butt, however, has expressed the hope that the soured relationship between India and Pakistan would improve by 2011 World Cup, but made it clear that it will follow the government's directives on allowing players to visit India.

"We will do whatever the government tells us to do in this regard. But hopefully by 2011 rela-

prix, where he will wave the chequered flag over what would be the title decider.

Having won last season's finale on home soil, Massa had hoped to return for this year's equivalent in Abu Dhabi on 1 November, but now admits that he is more likely to concentrate on winter testing before returning to the grid for next season's opening round in Bahrain.

"My hope is to come back soon, although I know the ideal thing is to return 100 per cent at the start of next season," he conceded, "My dream would be to be at Abu Dhabi, but the chances of this happening are very, very small."

The Brazilian, who will line up alongside new signing Fernando Alonso in 2010, has paid tribute to the technology that helped to save not only his sight, but maybe also his life too.

"The fact that we have carbon-fibre helmets makes the difference," he admitted during a recent webchat. "If my accident had happened many years ago, the outcome would have been very different. But we're still working together with the FIA and the helmet manufacturers to improve safety further. I didn't feel any pain not even when I woke up in Budapest. Obviously, medicine helped me a lot but, all in all, I didn't have any problems."

Despite the obvious concerns of his family, Massa revealed that there was never any pressure on him to stop racing -- and he even planned to have a permanent reminder of the incident at home in Brazil.

"Only once [my wife Raffaella] asked me if I wanted to stop, but I told her that I don't and she understood," he said, "She asked me if there was at least a possibility of one per cent and I told her that there were not even half a per cent."

"And the helmet from Budapest? I'll have it in my house together with the others; it's part of my life."

tions between the two countries would have improved quite a bit," Butt said.

The ICC had recently announced the groupings of the 2011 World Cup, saying the schedule and venues of the matches will be finalized by next year.

While India is placed in Group B along with South Africa, England and the West Indies, Pakistan will be in Group A along with champions Australia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Canada.

Netherlands, Ireland and Bangladesh are also in Group B.

Cobras bite Otago

FROM PAGE 17

Nathan gave Cobras a minor scare when he entertained the crowd with clean hitting. Otago leaked 121 runs off the last ten overs -- a stat which decided which way the match was headed.

Otago invested probably two of their best local batsmen right at the top to get them off to a flier. Brendon McCullum and Aaron Redmond made an encouraging start with some power hitting through the off side but the joy was short-lived. Redmond fell slashing to third man and Brendon perished for 21, failing to make his ground while attempting a second run. Two further run-outs before the tenth over dented them further.

Nathan gave Cobras a minor scare when he picked Ontong for three consecutive boundaries. However, he got a little too cheeky against Kleinveldt when a paddle scoop went straight to short fine leg. Kleinveldt picked up three wickets as Otago threw their bats around at everything and folded up with 17 balls to spare.

The mismatch notwithstanding, Puttick's performance was more than just an appetiser for the second game, between the home side Deccan Chargers and Somerset.

BRIEF SCORES

Cape Cobras 193 for 4 beat Otago Volts 139 by 54 runs.

PODS	SOW	ITEM
AREA	PHI	MESA
TEASPOON	BAIS	
MONSHY	GARRET	
YES	STUD	
HAT	WAD	LERIE
IDEA	LOU	SORT
PSALM	END	PEA
CLAD	HOG	
ADHERE	ERASER	
BRIG	TEAMMATE	
LANE	ERR	INNS
EGGS	RED	NEAT

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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47					48	49	50			
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54					55				56	

CRYPTOQUIP

M S X I S E R C U M F X U A H R R
V R M H T W N A J M A A J X V E W N M
K F D T H U W E A Y F E C X W Y D A
H I E D R K W A Y X M A E W H A I
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A FATHER NOTICES
HIS CHILD GETTING OUT OF BED, I SUPPOSE HE
COULD BE SEEING THE RISING SON.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals T