

SPORTS

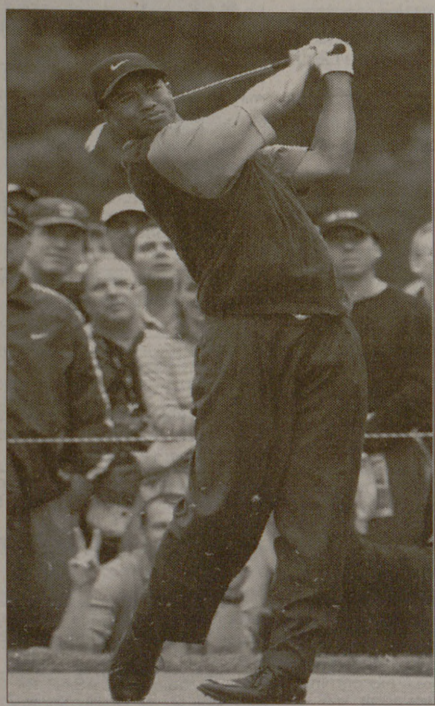
THE BATTALION

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Woods dominates like no other athlete



DALLAS SHIPP



KRT CAMPUS

Tiger Woods has proven to be the most dominant athlete in sports today.

Is Tiger Woods the most dominant entity in the sports world today? What about Kobe Bryant or Shaquille O'Neal and the Lakers? What about Roger Clemens and the Yankees? Sure, they have won their share of titles, however, there is a distinct difference. The Lakers and Yankees may dominate their respective sports, but there is no single athlete in the world that dominates his sport like Tiger Woods.

The Lakers are not the Lakers without Kobe and Shaq. When Shaq was with the Orlando Magic, the Houston Rockets swept him in his only NBA Finals appearance in 1995.

How about Clemens? He was not exactly what the doctor ordered for the Curse of the Bambino in Boston, and he sure was not able to help the Toronto Blue Jays recapture its magic of the early 90s. Without the rest of New York's pitching rotation and the payroll in excess of \$100 million a year, Clemens would be just another hard throwing right-hander.

In Los Angeles, the Lakers have a formidable opponent in the Sacramento Kings; the Arizona Diamondbacks dethroned the Yankees last year. Woods, however, has no rival. There is no one in the world that can even stand in the same ring as him and compete. Phil Mickelson, the No. 2 player in the world, has yet to deliver on Sundays against Tiger.

Since 1996, Tiger has won over 40 tournaments and has revolutionized the game of golf. He hits the ball longer and straighter than anyone else on the tour. No one hits the

greens in regulation better than Woods and only two are ranked ahead of him in putting. However, if he can get to the green faster, he can afford to miss a putt now and then.

The most impressive sight golf fans have seen from Woods so far is his ability to win in pressure situations. Woods has won eight major championships including the 2002 Masters and the 2002 U.S. Open last weekend in Bethpage, N.Y., in which he was 2-over in his final round and still captured his second U.S. Open title with a three-stroke victory.

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S. Korea shocks Italy, 2-1

5 major federations represented in quarterfinals

YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP) — For the first time, the World Cup will have a quarterfinal round worthy of the tournament's name.

All five major soccer federations will be represented in the final eight — including the United States from CONCACAF and co-host South Korea from Asia — following eight scintillating second-round matches.

"There is no longer an established world in soccer," said U.S. coach Bruce Arena, whose team plays Germany on Friday. "It is truly a global game now. At the end of the day, the Brazils and Germanys and Englands and Italys will be there, but the gap is closing."

He was right about three of those soccer giants. But Italy was dispatched by an overtime goal off the head of South Korean midfielder Ahn Jung-hwan in a 2-1 victory that sent millions of Koreans into the streets in celebration.

"We made it to the last eight because of the big support from the fans," defender Kim Tae-young said. "We will catch Spain in the quarterfinals (Saturday). Please trust us."

The other upcoming games have Brazil against England on Friday and Senegal against Turkey on Saturday. The Turks knocked out the other co-host, beating Japan 1-0 on Tuesday.

Will the litany of upsets continue?

The most recent last-place finishers, the Americans, are still alive,

while the defending champion French are long gone. A newcomer and a team making its first appearance in five decades have survived.

North America will be represented by the United States, whose 2-0 victory over Mexico made many American fans forget the 0-3 debacle of 1998 and the complete absence from the World Cup between 1950 and 1990.

"It's like it's not happening," said midfielder Landon Donovan, who scored the second goal against Mexico. "It's like a dream."

The dream continued for South Korea — barely. Trailing 1-0 at Daejeon, Seol Ki-Hyeon scored just two minutes from the end of regulation. Then, three minutes before a penalty-kick shootout, Ahn Jung-hwan

eliminated the three-time champions with his header.

"We are going on and we are enjoying it very much," said Guus Hiddink, South Korea's Dutch coach. "We know we have tonight to celebrate and people must celebrate."

South Korea became the first Asian team in the quarterfinals since North Korea in 1966 — when the North Koreans shocked the Italians to reach the final eight.

The African confederation is represented by fearless Senegal, which set the tone for a World Cup full of upsets when it defeated France in the Dakar Lions' first-ever tournament game.

The Senegalese dispatched Sweden with a golden goal from Henri Camara off a back-heeled pass from

Pape Thiaw. Camara sank the same Swedes who in the first round eliminated Argentina, seemingly everyone's pre-tournament favorite to win.

"We knew that it would be a very hard match, a match of warriors," African player of the year El Hadji Diouf said of the game with Sweden. "We showed once more that we are a band of brothers, a band of friends."

Even Turkey, which last participated in the World Cup in 1954, is still around, casting gloom over Japan's blue-clad fans with a header by Umit Davala in the 12th minute Tuesday.

Of course, some favorites still are breathing.

Brazil, the only four-time

See Korea on page 4

... And then there were eight

Co-host Japan was knocked out but South Korea advances to the quarterfinals with a thrilling overtime win over Italy. Here is the rest of the field that rounds out the final eight teams.

England 3, Denmark 0
With three first-half goals, England defeated the Danes and faces Brazil.



Brazil 2, Belgium 0
Four-time champion Brazil defeated Belgium with two second-half goals.

Germany 1, Paraguay 0
Germany scored in the 88th minute for a victory over Paraguay.



United States 2, Mexico 0
Americans beat cross-border rival Mexico to advance to the quarterfinals and face Germany.

Senegal 2, Sweden 1 OT
Senegal scored a golden goal in the 104th minute to beat Sweden.



Turkey 1, Japan 0
Turkey knocked out Japan with one first-half goal to reach the quarterfinals and face Senegal.

Spain 3, Ireland 2 OT
Spain knocked out Ireland on penalties after the game was tied 1-1.



South Korea 2, Italy 1 OT
Overtime goal by South Korea sends the co-host to the quarterfinals against Spain.

SOURCES: FIFA, Associated Press

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