

Windies exact a fitting revenge

KINGSTON, Apr 8: South Africa's cricketers were soundly beaten by West Indies on Tuesday when they lost the first-ever contest between the countries on Caribbean soil by 107 runs at Sabina Park, reports Reuter.

Inspired by a magnificent 122 from 113 balls by Phil Simmons, West Indies amassed a formidable total of 287 for six in 50 overs and then bowled out the South Africans for 180 in 42.2 overs.

Andrew Hudson topscored for the tourists with 50 but the opener could not prevent West Indies extracting some revenge for their 64-run defeat to the same opponents in New Zealand during the World Cup last month.

Apart from persistent abuse directed at out-of-favour home captain Richie Richardson, there were no protests inside the ground to mark the first one-day international of South Africa's hastily arranged short tour to the region.

Any security fears the South African players and management may have had were laid to rest when the crowd politely applauded skipper Kepler Wessels when he led his team out having won the toss.

Richardson, in contrast, was loudly booed throughout his innings of 30 and virtually every time he touched the ball in the field.

Many West Indians, especially his home island of Antigua, have aimed criticism at his captaincy since the great Viv Richards stepped down last year.

Worst of all was his suggestion beforehand that the World Cup match with South Africa was "just another game of cricket". To the politically aware West Indian population it was anything but.

The subsequent defeat against an all-white South African team went down very badly but there was rarely any risk of a home repeat.

After left-handed opener Brian Lara had made an attrac-

ive 50, the West Indies innings was electrified by Simmons' clean hitting.

Making batting look the easiest thing in the world, the 28-year-old peppered the boundaries with five sixes and 12 fours, even threatening the well-being of passers-by out-

The pair shared a stand of 105 for the third wicket, exposing a lack of depth among the South African bowlers who also gifted far too many runs in wides and no-balls.

On slow outfield a target of 288 to win looked even more remote when Wessels, who



PHIL SIMMONS ... 122

side the ground.

One towering six off Cape Coloured (mixed race) spinner Omar Henry bounced on top of the distant commentary box and disappeared into the street where a quick-witted youth ran off with it, pursued in vain by two uniformed policemen waving batons.

Simmons' second 50 took just 31 balls including a startling blow into the crowd over extra cover off the expensive Corrie Van Zyl.

had earlier pocketed four catches, was run out in the sixth over by a direct hit from Keith Arthurton.

The solid Hudson again showed good technique against the quicker bowlers but, in worsening light, the tourists' faint chances vanished when he and Peter Kirsten departed to Patrick Patterson for the addition of just three runs.

Winston Benjamin grabbed three late wickets and Wessels concluded: "We have a lot of

work to do before the weekend."

South Africa now need to win both remaining one-day Internationals in Port of Spain, Trinidad on April 11 and 12 to take the best-of-three series.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the one-day cricket international between West Indies and South Africa on Tuesday:

WEST INDIES
Haynes c Henry b Donald 9
Lara c Wessels b Henry 50
Simmons c Wessels b Kuiper 122
Richardson lbw b Kuiper 30
Hooper not out 19
Arthurton c Wessels b Donald 27
Benjamin c Wessels b Kuiper 8
Ambrose not out 0
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, nb-4, w-12) 22
Total: (Six wickets-50 overs) 287
Fall of wickets: 1-32, 2-104, 3-209, 4-238, 5-277, 6-286.

Did not bat: David Williams, Anderson Cummins, Patrick Patterson.

BOWLING: O M R W
Donald 10 1 47 2
Snell 10 1 56 0
Van Zyl 8 2 53 0
Henry 10 0 53 1
Cronje 3 0 18 0
Kirsten 4 0 21 0
Kuiper 5 0 333(W-1) 8

SOUTH AFRICA
Wessels run out 8
Hudson c and b Patterson 50
Kirsten c Lara b Patterson 15
Kuiper at Williams b Hooper 15
Cronje b Cummins 42
Rhodes b Cummins 17
Snell run out 1
Richardson c Arthurton b Benjamin 5
Van Zyl c Ambrose b Benjamin 0
Henry b Benjamin 1
Donald not out 5
Extras: (lb-8, w-10, nb-3) 21
Total: (All out-42.2 overs) 180
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-79, 3-82, 4-121, 5-153, 6-155, 7-161, 8-168, 9-174.

BOWLING: O M R W
Ambrose 7 1 20 0
Patterson 7 2 17 2
Benjamin 9 2 0 45 3
Cummins 9 0 34 2
Hooper 8 0 44 1
Simmons 2 0 12 0

Nat'l cricket final round from Friday

Sports Reporter

The final round of the Gold Leaf national cricket championship will begin tomorrow in the city.

Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yousuf, Minister for Health and Family Planning, will inaugurate the eight-day finals at the Dhaka Stadium at 9 am.

Dhaka University will take on Nawabganj DSA at the Dhaka Stadium while Bangladesh Biman will play Rajshahi DSA at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on the opening day.

Other final round qualifiers are Khulna, Mymensingh, Chittagong, Barisal Dhaka and Sylhet.

The knockout tourney began on March 27 at nine different venues across the country.

The final of the tournament is scheduled to be held on April 17 at the Dhaka Stadium.

Nat'l youth cricket from tomorrow

Sports Reporter

The twelfth national youth cricket championship begins in six zones of the country tomorrow, April 10.

Forty-two teams are competing in the knock-out tournament.

The participating sides are: Sylhet Zone: Chittagong, Habiganj, Feni, Moulvi Bazar, Tangail, Chandpur and Comilla. Tangail Zone: Mymensingh, Munshiganj, Sylhet, Narayanganj, Manikganj, Sherpur and Faridpur.

Jessore Zone: Barisal, Jhalakati, Bhola, Patuakhali, Meherpur, Chuadanga and Kushtia.

Barisal Zone: Khulna, Satkhira, Magura, Madaripur, Sirajganj, Jhenidah and Jessore.

Pabna Zone: Rajshahi, Gaibandha, Joypurhat, Thakurgaon, Natore, Kurigram and Bogra.

Thakurgaon Zone: Pabna, Panchagarh, Nawabganj, Rangpur, Naogaon, Nilphamari and Dinajpur.

The final round of the tournament will begin on April 18 in Dhaka.

Qadir says he's fit again

KARACHI, Apr 8: Pakistan's right-arm leg-spinner Abdul Qadir, 36, said Wednesday he was fit and could be available for the forthcoming Pakistan tour of England, reports AFP.

"I am fully fit and satisfied with x-rays and will be glad to join the camp if cricket authorities ask me to do so," said Qadir.

The spinner had ruptured an Achilles tendon during a charity match between Pakistan and England Eleven at Uxbridge in Middlesex last autumn.

Qadir fell on the ground after bowling only one delivery in that match.

"I am doing my exercises like cycling and walking and after seeing my doctor again on Thursday a final decision will be taken," he said adding, "I only have some stiffness."

Qadir, the only Pakistani spinner with more than two hundred Test wickets to his credit, remained on crutches for four months with his leg plastered after an emergency operation at the St Thomas's Hospital in London.



ABDUL QADIR

His comeback would greatly strengthen the Pakistan side, cricket experts here said.

Qadir, who made his Test debut in 1977-78 against England at Lahore, has 236 wickets to his credit in 67 Tests. In 102 one-day internationals he has a tally of 131 wickets with his best being five wickets for 44 runs.

He bowled out the West Indies for their lowest ever Test score of 53 runs at Faisalabad in 1986.

Pakistan are to start their tour of England from May 3 to play 35 matches including five Tests and five one-day internationals.

This will be the first Pakistan-England Test series after the infamous Mike Gatting-Shakoor Rana incident at Faisalabad in 1987-88, when Gatting abused the umpire over his judgement and the Test was stopped for a day and only resumed after England made a written apology.

Pakistan's fast bowler Waqar Younis, 20, who suffered stress fracture during home series against Sri Lanka, also saw his doctor in Lahore Wednesday for a final checkup.

Younis missed the World Cup due to illness and sources close to him said "He is much better and may now be available for England tour."

Sabatini made to struggle

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida, Apr 8: It was not easy, but second-seed Gabriela Sabatini beat Linda Harvey.

Wild 6-3, 7-5 on Tuesday in the second round of the dollar 350,000 Bausch and Lomb Championships women's tennis tournament, reports Reuter.

Top-seeded Steffi Graf was embroiled in a battle with German compatriot Silke Meier — the score was 4-4 in the first set — when rain delayed the match until Wednesday.

The second-ranked Graf's problem during the eight games was typical for her — running around her backhand,

hitting only forehands, which causes her to continually be out of position.

The top eight seeds all received first-round byes.

Other second round winners Tuesday were third-seeded Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, fifth-seeded Jana Novotna, sixth-seeded Katerina Malceva, seventh-seeded Lella Meskhi and eighth-seeded Zina Garrison.

Fourth-seeded Conchita Martinez, a finalist last week in Hilton Head, South Carolina, has not played yet. She faces Cristina Papadaki of Greece on Wednesday.

Sabatini won her 23rd title — third of 1992 — last week at Hilton Head. Last week's competition appeared to have

taken its toll on the Argentine in her first match here when she was sluggish as she struggled to get by Harvey-Wild.

"Today, I thought I was a tired player," said the third-ranked Sabatini, who will not play again until Thursday.

"I was not running with speed. But it was just today. I'll be okay."

There were five service breaks in the ace-sawing first set. After losing her serve in the first game, Sabatini won the next three. The 51st-ranked Harvey-Wild won the next two games to even the score at 3-3.

That was when Sabatini took temporary control, winning the final three games of the set.

Courier moves up in Japan Open

TOKYO, Apr 8: American Jim Courier, trying to regain the world's No. 1 ranking, scored an easy victory Wednesday while veteran Jimmy Connors was ousted in the second round of the \$1.19 million Japan Open Tennis Championships, reports AP.

Courier, who briefly held the No. 1 position earlier this year, beat fellow American Kevin Curren 6-1, 6-1 in just 50 minutes in cold weather on the hard court of Ariake Coliseum.

Top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden, holding the top world ranking by just 22 points ahead of Courier, did not play Wednesday.

Courier put in 75 percent of his first serves to Curren's 54 percent.

Courier won the fifth and seventh games of the first set and the first, second, third and sixth games of the second without losing a point.

Courier agreed with Edberg's comment Tuesday that the important thing was to be No. 1 at the end of the year.

"Everyone likes a race and it's good for the game overall.

We are pretty close," said Courier.

"(Japan Open) is an important event and the ranking could swing, but I am more concerned with peaking for the Grand Slams, which are the brunt of my focus for the year," he added.

Third-seeded Michael Stich

6, 7-6 (9-7) before 5,200 cheering Japanese spectators.

"I had expected a tough match against Matsuoaka," said Stich, who was playing his first tournament in four weeks. "It's significant to win with such scores."

Australian Todd Woodbridge, who turned 21 last



JIM COURIER



JIMMY CONNORS

week, stunned the 11th-seeded Connors, just five months short of his 40th birthday, 6-0, 6-1.

When Connors won his first Grand Slam title, the

Australian Open, on Jan. 1, 1974, Woodbridge was not even 3 years old.

Fourth-seeded Michael Chang beat American compatriot Steve Bryan 6-3, 6-2.

In a showdown between last week's tournament winners, 9th-seeded American Aaron Krickstein, who won in Johannesburg, beat Simon Youl of Australia, who won in Singapore, 6-1, 7-6 (7-0).

American Jim Grabb beat 12th-seeded Jan Stomerink of the Netherlands 6-7 (7-9), 7-5, 6-1, and 14th-seeded Anders Jarryd of Sweden defeated Martin Damm of Czechoslovakia 6-3, 6-1.

Fifth-seeded American Derrick Rostagno, playing New Zealand's Brett Steven, retired with a virus when he was training 6-2, 2-1.

In second-round women's singles, top-seeded Amy Frazier crushed fellow American Stephanie Rehe 6-1, 6-2 and third-seeded Kimiko Date dominated Japanese compatriot Mana Endo 6-4, 6-4.

The seven-day tournament, sponsored by Suntory, a leading beverage maker, offers \$144,000 for the men's singles winner and \$17,000 for the women's singles champion.

Jansher off to flying start

LONDON, Apr 8: Jansher Khan, favourite to keep the British Open title in Pakistan now that the ten-times champion Jahangir Khan is injured, made a magnificent start here Wednesday, reports AP.

The 22-year-old from Peshawar needed only 29 minutes and conceded only two points and ten rallies in reaching the second round against the Dutch number one Raymond Scherffer. The score was 9-1, 9-1, 9-0.

Jansher looked to have benefited from having a build-up in a minor tournament in Ireland, and overwhelmed a man who had taken him the full five games in the Dutch Open just before Christmas.

The top seed was philosophical about his chances of shrugging off the jinx that seems to have afflicted him in the British Open.

"Some of it is down to luck," he said. "In the past I could have been beaten in the World Open and I won, and Jahangir could have been beaten in the British Open and he won."

"But I have done all I can to prepare and, God willing, I can do it this time."

The other top seed, Susan Devoy of New Zealand, also began well, beating Australia's Carole Owens 9-4, 9-1, 9-4.

However, another Australian, Danielle Drady, the former world number two playing her comeback tournament after six months out with an Achilles injury, was beaten.

Another setback for Agassi

BARCELONA, Spain, Apr 8: Another tournament, another early exit for Andre Agassi.

Undermined by his own errors and handicuffed by his opponent's 115-mph (185-kph) serve, Agassi lost his 1992 clay-court debut Tuesday to 94th-ranked Jacco Eltingh 6-4, 1-6, 1-6, in the Conde de Godo tournament, reports AP.

Agassi has won only four of his 10 tournament matches this year, and has failed to reach the quarterfinals of any event.

Eltingh, who grew up on clay courts in the Netherlands but has a serve-and-volley style more appropriate to hard courts or grass, dominated against a player whose best surface is clay.

Except for a brief flurry in the second set, when Agassi turned up the power and forced his opponent to make mistakes, Eltingh overwhelmed Agassi with his serve and took advantage of the American's frequent errors.

Eltingh steadied himself after the second set, breaking Agassi's serve to open the final set and racing to a 4-0 lead.

"The guy played a perfect game at the beginning of the third set to break me and then I got scared to hit the ball, Agassi said. "When it got tight in the third set I couldn't hit, and I feel sad about that."

It was the third time this season Agassi has been defeated by a player below the

top 50 in the world. And Eltingh has not exactly been a world-beater this year, losing to players such as Tomas Zorazila and Bart Wuyts in recent weeks.

Eltingh, who rallied in the first round Monday to defeat



ANDRE AGASSI

Jen Gunnarsson while Agassi had a bye, said his familiarity with the surface helped.

"You could tell he was not used to the bad bounces," said Eltingh.

The first set went on serve until Eltingh broke Agassi's serve in the final game. Agassi rebounded with three service breaks in the second set, but then lost his own serve three times in the final set.

Joining Eltingh in the third round was seventh seed Alberto Mancini, who defeated Mark Koevermans 6-4, 2-6, 7-

5. Tenth seed Andrei Cherkasov was ousted in a first-round match Tuesday, losing 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) to Franco Davin.

Top seed Boris Becker and second seed Ivan Lendl, both of whom had first-round byes, were to play their opening matches Wednesday.

Aussie Fed Cup tennis squad

MELBOURNE, Apr 8: Rachel McQuillan and Nicole Provis were named Wednesday to head the Australian team for the Federation Cup women's tennis competition, reports AP.

McQuillan and Provis, Australia's two top-ranked women, will be joined on the four-player team by Jenny Byrne and newcomer Rennee Stubbs.

Byrne last played on the national team in 1989.

The Federation Cup will be held in Frankfurt, Germany, July 12-19.

Australia has not won the event since 1984, but has direct entry to the main draw, which this year has been restricted to 28 direct acceptances plus four nations qualifying from regional competitions.

Handball trip

Sports Reporter

General Secretary of the Bangladesh Handball Federation Asaduzzaman Kohinor leaves today for Denmark to attend a seminar on international youth handball there, reports BSS.

The five-day seminar will begin at Haderslav, Denmark on April 16.

He will also witness the matches of international schools handball tournament beginning there on April 11.

The Viharunnessa Noon Girls School handball team, who also leave today for Haderslav, will take part in Pool B along with teams from Germany, Turkey and Belgium.

Sixteen teams will take part in four groups of the girls' section.

Handball camp

Sports Reporter

A handball training course for boys' under 15 years of age will begin from April 11 at the Outer Stadium handball court, says a Bangladesh Handball Federation (BHF) press release.

Organised by the BHF, a Japanese coach will conduct the programme.

Interested boys have been asked to attend the court at 3:30 pm on the day.

DMBA bridge tourney Apr 14

Sports Reporter

A six-round Swiss League team bridge tournament has been organised by the Dhaka Metropolitan Bridge Association (DMBA) on the Bangla New Year's Day on April 14 at the Bangladesh Bank Club premises in Motijheel, a press release said.

The open tournament will commence at 9:30 am. Each match will consist of eight boards. The entry fee will be Tk 100/- only per team.

Meanwhile, the DMBA has arranged a day-long Eid reunion bridge programme on April 17 at 9:30 am at the same venue. The programme includes paid duplicate bridge contest in the morning session, lunch at 2:00 pm and an Epsom-type pairs contest on instant score technique at 3:30 pm. The registration fee will be Tk 80/- per head inclusive of lunch (Tk 100/00 per pair for afternoon session only without lunch), the press release added.

DMBA's regular weekly bridge contest will resume on April 10 at 3:45 pm at the same venue, the press release added further.

Seeds sail in KL badminton

KUALA LUMPUR, Apr 8: Favourite Rashid Sidek of Malaysia led the rest of the seeded players into the third round with ease on the opening day of the Asian Badminton Confederation championships held here yesterday, reports AP.

The Malaysian number one tamed Ricardo Santos of the Philippines 15-1, 15-1 easily, in a mere 18 minutes, while

second seed Bambang Suprianto of Indonesia thrashed Irfikhar Hussain of Pakistan 15-3, 15-0.

Rashid, the defending champion, sprayed shots around the court, sending his inexperienced opponent scrambling around and never allowed him to get into the game.

Bambang Suprianto, who is ranked 11 in the world, pinned Irfikhar Hussain to the defensive corner most of the time, dropping only three

points in the first set.

Hussain, who was a spent force in the second set, was shown no mercy by Suprianto who maintained a continuous onslaught with cross-court drops and sideline measures and breezed through for a 15-0 win.

Suprianto's compatriot, Fung Permadi, who is seeded third, overcame initial resistance by Wee Peng Siong of Singapore and chalked up a 15-6, 15-4 victory while another Indonesian, Joko Suprianto, the fourth seed, hardly ratted any sweat in brushing aside North Korean Kim Ryong Gil 15-0, 15-1.

In the women's singles, top seed Ye Zhaoying of China thrashed Subha Shrestha of Nepal 15-1, 11-3 while her second seeded compatriot Zhou Lei outwitted Kai Hiwa of Japan 11-8 and 11-3.

SA runner seeks glory in London marathon

LONDON, Apr 8: As a South African-born marathon runner awaiting US citizenship, Mark Plaatjes won't be running at the Olympics in Barcelona this year, reports AP.

Instead, he hopes to make his mark by winning Sunday's London marathon.

Winner of the Los Angeles marathon last year, Plaatjes goes into the London race as the favourite and he is likely to beat some Olympic runners along the way.

"This will be my Olympics," he said Tuesday. He added that the \$195,000 prize would help him pay the medical costs for one of his eight brothers and sisters who is suffering from cancer back in South Africa.

Plaatjes, 30, is from a black South African township. He fled threats and intimidation in his homeland to move to Boulder, Colo., in 1988.

Now a physical therapist, he will complete the five-year residency requirement for US citizenship next year.

Although South Africa is returning to the Olympics this year, he cannot run for his native land because technically he is neither South African nor

American.

Plaatjes recalls the time he was accused by the black activists in Soweto of collaborating with the white minority regime.

When a strike was called on Labour Day, everyone was urged to stay at home instead of going to work. Plaatjes innocently went on a training run with a friend.

"We were running in this big field, and we saw a huge crowd of people 'necklacing' this man," he said. "That's when they break both your arms, put a tire around you, fill it with gasoline and then set it alight."

"When they saw us, they started to charge towards us, carrying the tires," he said.

"I think we probably ran a mile in under three minutes, 30 seconds. If we hadn't been such good runners, we would probably have been killed."

"My mother also would get calls saying she would find me dead on the streets and a lot of my friends died under mysterious circumstances," Plaatjes said.

"The main motivating factor about starting a new life in America was that I didn't want my daughter growing up in that atmosphere as a second-class citizen."

Hussain to run in Boston marathon

BOSTON, Apr 8: Defending champion Ibrahim Hussain and 84-year-old Johnny "the Elder" Kelley were among the entries for the 96th Boston marathon announced today, reports AP.

Hussain, a two-time winner of the race, was joined by 1989 winner Abbe Mekonnen, last year's runner-up and Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania, who has been second three times, including 1988 when he was beaten by Hussain by one second.

Kelley entered for a record 61st time.

Some countries will be using this year's Boston marathon for an Olympic trial.

Kenya's Olympic hopefuls, for example, include Hussain, Simon Karori, Godfrey Kiprotich, Kennedy Isena Manyisa, Andrew Masai, Boniface Merende, Linus Mutai, Gideon Mutsya, William Musyoki and Sammy Myangincha.

Competing for the final spot on Mexico's Olympic team are Alejandro Cruz, who won the 1988 Chicago marathon in 2:08:57; Andres Espinosa; and 1990 Chicago winner Martin Platyto.

Ikangaa will be trying to qualify for Tanzania's Olympic team along with Simon Robert Naali, Juma Mnyampanda; and Ikaji Salum.

Olympic hopefuls entered from Finland were Pekka Roto, Ilkka Vaananen and Jouni Kortelainen.

Mekonnen, from Ethiopia, is joined by countrymen Tesfaye Tafa and Belayne Walsh.

Former world record holder Steve Jones, winner of the New York city marathon in 1988, also entered.

Missing from the entry list were 1990 champion Gelindo Bordin of Italy, sidelined by muscle fatigue, and four-time champion Bill Rodgers, who has been bothered by a right hamstring injury.

EBU in a spot for not holding dope test

PARIS, Apr 8: French boxer Jean-Baptiste Mendy may lose his European lightweight title because of a dope test which never took place, reports Reuter.

French Boxing Federation president Bernard Restout said on Tuesday that the European Boxing Union (EBU) had asked members of its Executive Committee to vote on whether to strip the title Mendy won on March 27 in Creil, north of Paris, when he beat defending champion Antonio Renzo of Italy.

Restout said Renzo's manager had protested to the EBU that obligatory dope tests had not taken place after the bout

and that his fighter had been injured because the boxers' gloves were scrapped to remove part of an advertising slogan.

The fight was stopped in the ninth round because of deep cuts over Renzo's eyes.

But Restout said he would resign from his post as vice-president of the EBU if the fight verdict were overturned.

"Renzo was beaten fair and square," he said. "It's true the gloves were scrapped but it was at the request of Renzo's camp."

"As for the dope test, that's the responsibility of the Sports Ministry.

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