Tit for tat: India to skip Asia Cup

NEW DELHI, May 20 : India decided on Tuesday not to participate in the Asia Cup

cricket tournament in Pakistan later this year, an official of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said, reports Reuter.

BCCI secretary Chandappa Nagaraj told newsmen in the western Indian city of Panji the decision was prompted by the Pakistan Cricket Board's failure to honour its commit-

ICC ref Cowper lays down the ground rules

LONDON, May 20: Former Australian batsman Bob Cowper laid down the ground rules for a summer of harmony between England and Pakistan, reports

Cowper, appointed as match referee by the International Cricket Council, spoke to both teams plus umpires David Shephered and Barrie Meyer on the eve of the opening Texaco Trophy international at Lord's.

"I am fully aware there have been problems during the last two scries between the two countries, but both teams are keen there should be no repeat this summer," said Cowper.

The 51-year old Australian reminded England and Pakistan of the code of conduct which outlaws verbal abuse of opponents and umpires and urges cricket is played "within the spirit of the game." .

Neither points were observed in 1987 when the behaviour of players on both sides during back-to-back series was disgraceful at times.

As referee, Cowper can hand out fines or even suspensions for breaches of the code. He also confirmed umpires would make "random insper-

tions" of the ball for evidence

of scam picking and deliberate

Calcutta after about 21 years

exile, forced upon it for its

adherence to apartheid. Since

then the South African

cricketers have been on the go

for about five and a half months

and with the Test match is

Bridgetown ended their 'lairy-

taly' return and "the dawn of a

new era" and now they can

very well look forward to a

bright noon'. The phase of re-

instatement is couplet, which

was sweet at the beginning and

prised the cricketing world

with their performance in the

World Cup. That they could

find a place for themselves

among the last four was no

mean achievement; it could

have been more glorious had

they not been knocked out,

not by the cricketing prowess

of England but, by the 'black'

rin-rules. South Africa was ob-

viously 'the SURPRISE' of the

have been the inspiring force

for the not too experienced

bunch of cricketers and the

very fact that they are back in

the limelight made them put

in their best possible efforts.

Their World Cup achievements

were more the result of de-

termined efforts rather than

qualitative superiority. What

wonders can be achieved

through determined team af-

fort has been very clearly

demonstrated by the World

enced South African cricketers

under the leadership of Kepler

Wessels, the only player to

tional exposure, performed

wonders. The brilliant fielding

of Jonty Rhodes (could anyone

forget his long dive towards

the wicket to run out

Inzamamul Haq?) throughout

the tournament, the flery spell

of Allan Donald (10-0-34-4)

against Australia in the open-

ing match, Peter Kirsten's 90

in a total of 190 against the

Kiwis, Meyrick Pringle's

match-winning best bowling

performance of the tourna-

ment (8-4-11-4) against the

West Indies, Andrew Hudson's

54 against Pakistan and the

Peter Kirsten-Andrew Hudson

opening stand of 128 against

India-all these were out of the

ordinary performances, which

emanated more from spirit

and determination rather than

from quality and experience.

The fairly consistent perfor-

mances of skipper Kepler

Wessels (313 at 44.71) and

Peter Kirsten (410 at 68.33),

the two most experienced

hands in the party, kept their

'boat' steady and Allan

have had some sort of interna-

The young, not too experi-

champions Pakistan.

The glories of the past must

fifth World Cup.

The South Africans sur-

sour towards the end.

rance in the are-

na of world cric-

scuffing.

nunts in the past. The Pakistan Board had failed to send a team to India on three previous occasions. including the last Asia Cup two years ago, Nagaraj said.

Pakistan had backed out of a five-Test tour of India in the winter of 1990 when Ilindu -Muslim clashes swept north India. The Pakistan Board also cancelled a five one-day international series last year, expressing concern for the security of the cricketers.

"The BCCI wants Pakistan to tour India first before India reciprocates," Nagaraj said.

ENGLAND TO TOUR

Meanwhile, another Reuter report from Delhi said: The England cricket team will play three Tests and six one-day internationals on their tour of

India beginning on January 3, Indian Cricket Board secretary Chandappa Nagaraj said on

The three Tests would be played at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay , Nagaraj said, as he released the schedule from the western Indian city of Panji after the Board meeting.

The venues of two of the six one-day games had not been finalised, Nagaraj told Reuters by telephone.

Besides these, England will play three other first class matches on the short tour which begins after the return of the Indian team from its first-ever tour of South Africa.

THE ITINERARY

Jan 3 to 5 vs Ranji champions Delhi at Faridabad. Jan 8 to 10 vs Board President's XI at Kanpur. Jan 13 vs India under-25 at

Jan 16 first one-day inter national at Ahmedabad. Jan 18 second one-day in

ternational at Jaipur. Jan 21 third one-day international (venue not finalised). Jan 25 vs India under-25 at

Cuttack. Jan 29-Feb 2 first Test match at Calcutta.

Feb 5 - 7 vs Rest of India at Hyderabad. Feb 11-15 second Test match

at Madras. Feb 19 - 23 third Test match at

Feb 26 fourth one-day in-

ternational at Bangalore. March 1 fifth one-day international at Jamshedpur.

March 4 sixth one-day international (venue not fi nalised).

India struggle to beat Wales



CARDIFF, Wales, May 20 : India scored the sixth European tour by defeating Wales

32 in a hard-fought match here Tuesday, reports AFP. The stubborn Welsh made the eight-times Olympic hockey champions struggle for the

first time on a warm-up tour for the Barcelona Games Harpreet Singh, with two penalty strokes, and Pargat Singh's short corner blast late in the game denied Wales who

twice came back to equalise

through Jon Rees and Hugh Rowlands. After India had wasted three short corners Wales conceded a penalty stroke for the obstruction of Dhanrai

Pillay and Harpreet Singh converted. Rees equalised from the third short corner in succession as Wales put the Indian defence under pressure at the

end of the half. The pattern of the second half was much the same as the first with Wales taking to defence and holding the Indians in check. In the 41st minute, however, Mukesh Kumar was obstructed by Clide O'Sullivan who conceded a penalty stroke and once again Harpreet Singh converted.

India were then reduced to nine men with Dhanraj Pillay being sent off for a questionable tackle and Sukhjit Singh for dissent. While they were off, Rowlands converted a short corner to level the score.

It took a superb effort on the part of India to score the winning goal which was obtained by Pargat Singh from a short corner.

The teams meet again here on Wednesday. Four substitutions were

permitted to Wales by general consent.

TEAMS

WALES : C Ashcroft, J Doherty, P Edwards, R Jones, D Bleach, J Rees, D Hacker (captain), C O'Sullivan, A Grimes, D Knapp, I HughesSingh (captain), C S/Poonacha Harpreet Singh, Jude Felix Sukhjit Singh, Ajit Lakra, Mukesh Kumar, Dhanraj Pillay Jagbir Singh, Didar Singh. Umpires : Mario Ferlito

INDIA: A B Subbaiah, Pargat

(France) and Olivier Fevre (France).

Poles win 4-2

SALZBLURG, Austria, May 20: Roman Kosccki, who plays for Turkish club Galatasaray, scored twice as Poland beat Austria 4-2 here Tuesday in a friendly football international. reports AFP.

Krzysztof Warzycha, who plays for Greek side Pana thinatikos, and Legia Warsaw striker Wojtek Kowalczyk were the other Polish scorers Ralph Hasenhuettle and

Walter Waldhoer replied for the Austrians. Scores: Austria 2 (llase

nhuttl 20, Waldhoer 68l Poland 4 (Kosccki 10 and 32. Warzycha 58, Kowalczyk 63). Referee: Matnix Sandra (Belgium).



France's Henri Leconte gestures during the match against Marc Rosset in the World Team Cup tennis tournament in Dusseldorf, Germany on May 19. The French team won 2-1 against Switzerland.

-AFP photo

South Africa's reinstatement: Sweet and sour

A.M. Chowdhury

Donald's 13 wkts at 25.30 allowed them to forge ahead. November last year South Africa Their place in the semi-finals was well earned; hardly any one can dispute that. ket at the Eden Gardens,

in the semi-final against England they were almost on the threshold of bringing about the greatest surprise, had the 'rains from heaven' not come to the rescue of Graham Gooch's men. Chasing a total of 252, the South Africans never gave up and the way Brian McMillan and Dave Richardson were on the charge, determined and courageous, hardly any on could doubt that they were not capable of reaching the target. They lost; but in defeat they were simply gorgeous and the rueful rain-rule made the English victory lacking the lustre and charm.

The Sydney crowd and billions of viewers in the cricketing world watched with admiration the composure of the South African cricketers with which they undertook a farewell lap of the SCG, though disappointment was writ large on their faces.

South Africa's debut in the



KEPLER WESSELS

World Cup could not have been any thing but satisfying. After a short three-match trip to India, in which they clinched a convincing victory in the last, they got about three months for preparation. Full marks to Mike Proctor, who must have embibed the team not only with the spirit to fight, but also the technique to cope with the best of men in the business.

The World Cup debut must be considered the peak point of glory after South Africa's return to international cricket. That far, they played 12 onedayers, won 6 and lost 6 and had the satisfaction of playing against all the cricket playing nations, irrespective of the colour of skin of the players.

Having enjoyed a tumultuous reception at home, the South African cricketers were soon in the Caribbean islands to play three one-dayers and their first-ever Test match against a black team and thereby signal their complete departure from the apartheid policy. The tour, thus, was historic. But hardly could the

tourists realise the sweet fruit of their reinstatement was going to turn sour on the hard, bald West Indian wickets. They could be pardoned for being optimistic of ending their reinstatement on a note of glory. since the Windies, in the process of rebuilding their team, must have been under tremendous pressure after having fared dismally in the Down-

Under toil But the Caribbeans proved their superiority on their home grounds beyond any doubt and beat South Africa three-nil in the one-dayers and in the Test match South Africa's legitimate dream of a victory was cruelly dashed on the last day by some really ruthless devastating fast bowling by Ambrosc and Walsh.

Set to get 201 for victory, the South Africans needed only 79 runs on the last day with eight second innings wickets intact and the two most experienced players (Kepler Wessels on 74 and Peter Kirsten on 36) occupying the crease. But Curtley Ambrose (6 for a 34) and Courtney Walsh (4 for



PETER KIRSTEN

31) ran havoe with the redcherry, which could not have been that shiny since 122 runs were already scored of it. The last stp from the cup of reinstatement could not have

been bitter for the South Africans. Once again it was proved that a cricket match is not won or lost until the last ball is bowled. The ruthless competitive-

ness of Test cricket was laid bare before the south Africans, who must have realised that the fund-fare of one-day cricket does not really build up the character which is needed in the Test arena. Incidentally, it was South Africa's 173rd Test match, of which they have won 38, lost 78 while 57 were drawn.

The successors of the great Pollock brothers, Barry Richards, Mike Proctor, Eddie Barlow, Trevor Goddard, Denis Lindsay, Jackie McGlew and Hugh Tayfield (their greatest off-spin bower with 170 wkts in 37 Tests at an averages of 25.91) could legitimately look forward to a bright future.

since they had a hard and hot baptism in which they tasted fruits both sweet and sour. Besides the experienced

players (Wessels, Kirsten and Donald) the most heartening performance, from South African point of view came from Andrew Hudson, who impro ved with every match, culminating his success story with a long, patient innings of 163 on Test debut against the West Indics fast bowlers. His century was a record; he was the first South African to have scored a ton on his Test debut His tally of 86 in the three one-dayers was impressive, still more impressive were his 296 in the World Cup matches (ave 37.00).

The top-order of the South African batting appears pretty solid, but there is definite weakness in the middle-order. Adrian Kuiper, though experienced, did not come off and Ansic Cronje and Jonty Rhodes have potentials but would need time the blossom.

Allan Donald, one of the fastest in the business, in South Africa's strike bowler, and he has to learn a little of the Test match job. Richard Snell did very well in the Caribbean and his 8 for 158 in his maiden Test appearance promisés a lot. But one has to admit that though their bowling did a good job at containment in the one-day matches, it did not have the penetrative power. Hence they have to look for new faces. Their bowling also lacks variety. But the South African bowlers are lucky to have the backing of a tremendously able fielding side. This is one department of the game in which they could justifiably claim to be the best. Anyhow, it is obvious, that

cricket is still in a fairly stable position in South Africa: the rebel tours during the period of banishment kept up the enthusiasm for the game and to some extent its standard Now with the colored talents. who one hopes will have the opportunity to blossom, coming in to make their marks soon, it won't be long when South Africa is back to the position which it enjoyed in the late 60s. I believe the likes' of Bastl d' Oliviera would be

around; only they need to be

groomed and nurtured.

The Indians are due to tour South Africa from late October to play four Tests and seven one-day matches and they will be quite tough customers. Let the South Africans come out to face the realities of tough international cricket, since their phase of reinstatement has ended; its sweet memories will inspire them to further efforts and the sour recollections should help them learn some hard lessons. Let the sweet and sour reinstatement serve as a good appetiser for South African cricket.

Unfit Stich lets Germany down



DUESSELDORF. Germany, May 20: Injured Wimbledon champion Michael Stich suffered a demora lising defeat by Petr Korda as Germany lost to Czechoslovakia

in their opening World Team Cup tie on Tuesday, reports Reuter. The world number five, who is suffering from an Achilles tendon problem, looked completely out of touch in a 6-3, 6-2 defeat in the opening rubber

The Czechoslovaks sealed the tie by winning the second singles. Karel Novacek beating Carl-Uwe Steeb 7-6, 3-6, 6-3.

of the round-robin group

caused more of a headache to Stich than the defeat with less than a week remaining before the world's top players gather in Paris for the French Open. "I only managed to practise

But the nagging injury

vesterday for the first time after treatment," Stich said after losing in just 70 minutes. "I still have discomfort and I

41 Give a

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slang

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the ship

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can't move 100 per cent as well as I normally can."

The injury has hit Stich just at a time when he looked to be getting into his swing on the slow clay surface.



MICHAEL STICH

Stich, whose serve-and-vol lev game is best suited to faster courts, destroyed compatriot Boris Becker 6-1, 6-1 on the way to the final of the German Open earlier this

cry

Sicily

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But he strained the tendon in a defeat by Swedish world number two Stefan Edberg in the Hamburg final and was forced to retire in his opening match in last week's Italian Open.

"We are going to have to get the injury treated this week again but I plan to play on here. I hope it will be okay. There are five days to go," Stich said.

The Wimbledon champion lacked his usual sharpness at the net as Korda, ranked eighth in the world, made a key break of service in the sixth game and secured the first set 6-3. The Czechoslovak outplayed Stich in the second set with some intelligent passing shots.

In the other group, France also scaled their opening tie against Switzerland before the doubles. Guy Forget beat Jakob Hlasek 6-3, 6-2 and Henri Leconte battled back from one set down to overcome Marc Rosset 4-6, 7-6, 6-1.

The winners of the two four-team groups qualify for Sunday's final.

England may seek changes in itinerary

LONDON, May 20 : England's cricket authorities may seek changes to the itinerary for their tour of India early next year which was an nounced by the host country on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India issued a two month programme, starting on January 3 and including three Tests and six one-day internationals. However, Test and County

Cricket Board cricket sceretary Tim Lamb said today: "Wc are concerned about the balance between Test cricket and one-day internationals." "The Board received a fax

with India's proposed itinerary only this morning and we reserve the right to fine tune the suggested programme." We need time to consider

the total number of matches. the travelling involved and rest days. We will be responding formally in due course. England are scheduled to

go on to Sri Lanka after the Indian tour but details have yet to be worked out. Short trounces

Timman

AMSTERDAM, May 20 Nigel Short of Britain trounced Jan Timman of the Netherlands here Tuesday in preview of their showdown to select a challenger to world chess title holder Garry Kasparov, reports AFP. Short check-mated the Dutch Grandmaster in 58 moves in a fifth

chess tournament. Short and Timman are to face off in January to determine who will meet Kasparov for the world chess title.

round match at the Spaarbank

In another match. Viswanathan Anand of India beat American Yasser Seirawan in 39 moves to take the lead in the tournament.

The win sent Anand to the top of the standings with three points. Results:

Viswanathan Anand (India) bt Yasser Scirawan (US) Nigel Short (Britain) bt Jan

Timman (Netherlands) STANDINGS

Anand 2-3. Scirawan, Short 2.5 4. Timman

Aouita to race Skah at Oslo

OSLO, May 20 : World record holder Said Aoutta will compete in the 5,000 metres at the Bislett Games in Oslo in July, organisers said on

Tuesday, reports Reuter. The Moroccan, who also holds world records at 1,500. 2,000 and 3,000 metres and the world best over two miles. will compete against compatriot Khalid Skah and France's Pascal Thiebaut, according to a preliminary list.

"It will be the first chance to meet Aouita before the Olympics," Skah told a news conference.

The Barcelona Games start on July 25.

Organisers said Kenya had not yet decided who to send to Norway because of domestic commitments. Nourdine Morcelli from

Algeria and Britain's Peter Elliot will race the Bislett Dream Mile at the July 4 meet-

BZYXU.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 19 Youth org. 21 Stewart or 15 **Taylor** 23 Kitten's 25 Bellow 26 City in 27 New or 58

CGIWA' KWAIACLZYX GJCATSU TZYMHSAXJ BCZISM

ZY

Today's Cryptoquip clue: X equals G

51 Genera-The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, It tion -52 Swiss will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to canton 54 Peruke locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



KCIZSYITL