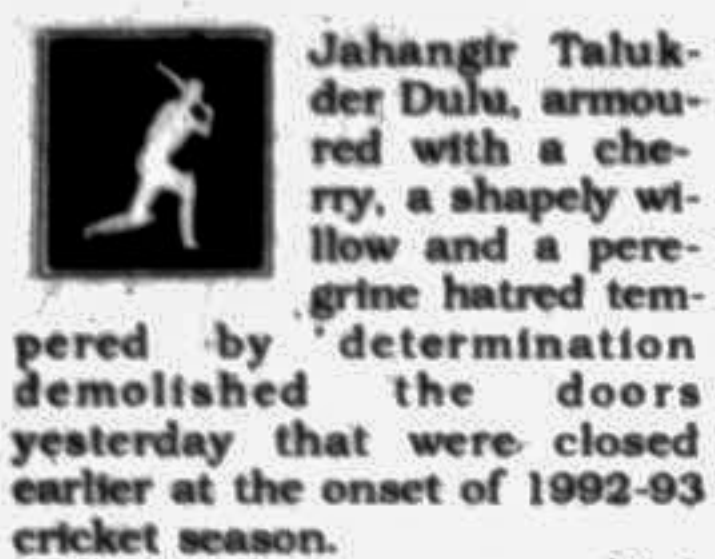


Dulu dents Mohammedan hopes

Sports Reporter



Jahangir Talukder Dulu, armoured with a cherry, a shapely willow and a perceptive hatred tempered by determination demolished the doors yesterday that were closed earlier at the onset of 1992-93 cricket season.

The fiery young man did more than any of his GMCC teammates in realising an upset six-run defeat of last year's Damal runners-up Mohammedan Sporting Club.

While Mohammedans, last year's league champion had few excuses to offer for the loss on the opening day of the second round of the 14th Damal Summer cricket tournament, Dulu had more than one reason to break into ecstatic fits of laughter.

It was a fine comeback for the determined young man from the doldrums his career looked heading for at one stage of the transfer for cricket players. Undervalued overnight because of the pool system that left each club with the choice of retaining or buying only three players from the national squad, Dulu, who performed reasonably well, showed every inclination to stay with the Mohammedans till it became all quiet on the other front.

At a time, Dulu was contemplating a sad switch to some other some line for living cordial cooperation by some influential persons inspired a depressed Dulu to sign for a fee below the expectations of this long haired south paw.

So much for the motivational analysis of Dulu's inspired performance at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Sent in to bat by national Mohammedan skipper Minhazul Abedin Nannu GMCC began cautiously, as the opening pair of Rowanukul Islam Tutul and Mohsin collected 36 runs in about 11 overs without ever appearing unnecessarily harassed by Mohammedan new ball bowlers, Gamsagee and Zakir.

However, Nannu's drifting deliveries ushered gum in the GMCC works as Tutul departed, caught by Liton for 13.

Mohsin, the new GMCC opener did his job well before being bowled by off-spinner Azhar Hossain Shantu for a dour 27 inclusive of three hits to the fence.

Selin and Pika chipped in with useful knocks of 18 and 25 respectively without really stepping up the run rate. Meanwhile, Shri Lankan Test player Sanjeeva Weerasinghe on whom a considerable

amount of GMCC hopes were heeled left, being run out for nought and the side was badly need of some intelligent batsmanship to be in with some sort of chance.

It was cometh the hour cometh the man sort of thing out there in the middle as skipper Tariquzzaman Munir arrived at the wicket. First with Sanwar and then with Dulu diminutive Munir who has the distinction of being the only triple centurion in the annals of Bangladeshi cricket, added some invaluable runs.

Munir scored 37 off just 42 balls with some timely improvisation and zestful running.

However, Munir would have found it extremely difficult to take the score in the vicinity of 200 had Dulu not been around with his unbeaten 25, characterised with some reverse sweeps. While Dulu made 25 off 29 balls with two fours Sanwar remained not out on 18 off 19 balls.

Nannu was the most successful bowler with three wickets for 31 runs. Shantu did the containing job fairly well picking one for 30 in the process. Leg spinner Wahid was used sparingly for six

body blow by disturbing the bats of MSC's Shri Lankan left hander Gurugee for a duck.

Mohammedans were in dire straits when Shantu after having hung around for quite some time came back run out for 12 off 45 balls.

At 34 for four Mohammedans needed the very best of Minhazul Abedin and Aminul Islam Bulbul. Fortunately for the league champions Bulbul was in his elements but unfortunately Nannu was not.

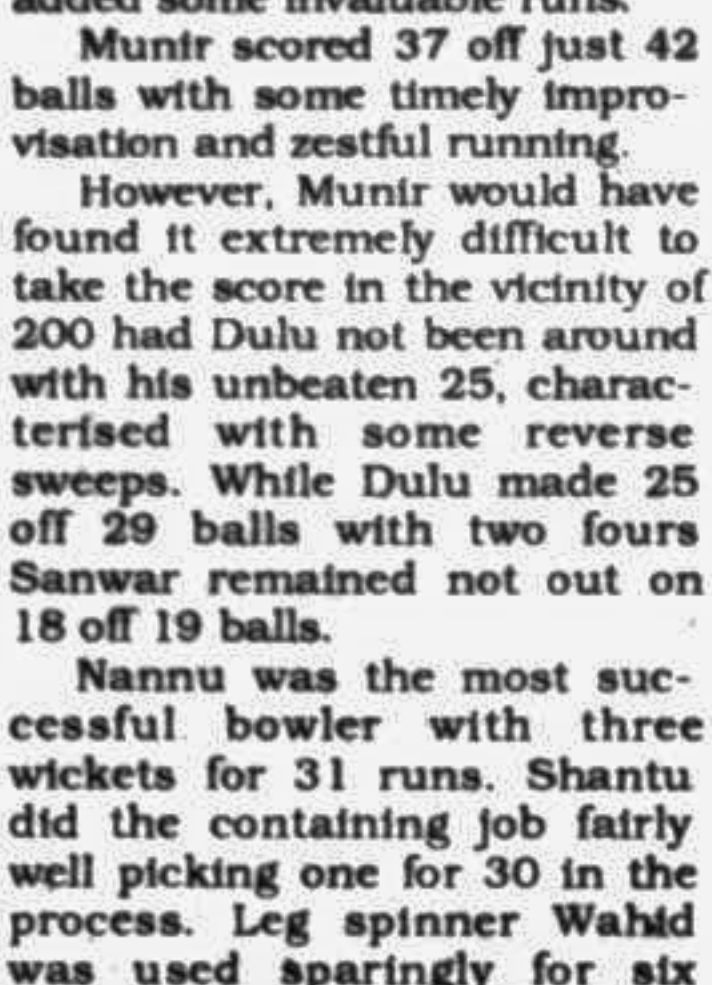
Battling with the dilemma of whether to defend or to attack GMCC spinners, specially Sanjeeva with his spot on leg breaks giving little leeway, Nannu chanced his arm against off spinner Sanwar and was caught and bowled for 31 off 55 balls.

Bulbul's plans of guiding the rocking MSC boat to the harbour ended when he was bowled by a ball from Dulu brought back for the second and what proved to be the decisive spell. Bulbul, the only Mohammedan batsman to be in some sort of form this year had by then scored 63 positive runs with the help of four four and a sixer off 75 balls.

An inspired Dulu then bowled Piyal for nine and although Gamsagee pushed along with a rather creditable 35 off 31 balls Sanjeeva's leg spin in the last overs proved too much for the Mohammedan tailenders and the scoreboard showed 183 for nine at the completion of 45 overs; still six short of an equilibrium.

Dulu was Mohammedans' devil claiming three important wickets for 37 runs. Sanjeeva Weerasingha had the MSC batsmen knotted with figures of two for 29. Saiful, Kajal and Sanwar bagged one each.

The defeat puts Mohammedans at the peril of losing a place in the final for the first time in the history of the tournament. Mohammedans have just one match at their hands — against Bangladesh Biman — which they must win to be in with a chance of reaching the semifinals should GMCC falter against the airline team.



BULBUL...63

overs in which he took one for 17.

Gamsagee was expensive by his stony standard squandering 34 runs from six ineffectual overs.

With right left pace combination of Saiful and Dulu giving very little away in the early overs 190 started looking a not so easy one as presumed earlier in the morning even for a sound batting like that of Mohammedans.

Saiful, the fastest bowler in the local circuit clean bowled his former GMCC mate Harunur-Liton for seven to start the side.

Dulu got into the act by accepting Rafiq's return catch for five and Kajal, the promising medium pacer delivered a

amount of GMCC hopes were heeled left, being run out for nought and the side was badly need of some intelligent batsmanship to be in with some sort of chance.

It was cometh the hour cometh the man sort of thing out there in the middle as skipper Tariquzzaman Munir arrived at the wicket. First with Sanwar and then with Dulu diminutive Munir who has the distinction of being the only triple centurion in the annals of Bangladeshi cricket, added some invaluable runs.

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Fall of wickets: 1-36; 2-61; 3-74; 4-74; 5-137; 6-139; 7-142.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Gamsagee	6	0	34	0
Zakir	4	0	12	0
Nannu	9	0	31	3
Peal	4	1	10	0
Shantoo	9	2	30	1
Wahid	6	0	17	1
Rafique	2	0	10	0
Bulbul	5	0	28	0

MSC:

Shantoo run out	12
Liton b Saiful	7
Rafique c and b Dulu	5
Gurugee b Kajal	0
Nannu c and b Sanwar	31
Bulbul b Dulu	63
Peal b Dulu	9
Gamsagee not out	35
Zakir b Sanjeeva	5
Wahid b Pappu b Sanjeeva	2
Ratan not out	1
Extras:	13
Total: (for nine wickets)	183

Fall of wickets: 1-13; 2-26; 3-27; 4-34; 5-87; 6-112; 7-163; 8-175; 9-177.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Saiful	8	0	30	1
Dulu	9	3	37	3
Kajal	7	0	22	1
Tutul	6	0	20	0
Sanjeeva	9	0	29	2
Sanwar	6	0	36	1

Following are the two groups of the six-team second phase on quarterfinal league of the Damal Summer tournament:

Group X:	Group Y:
Abahani KC	Mohammedans
Victoria SC	GMCC
B Union	B Biman

TODAY'S MATCH

Abahani vs Victoria (Dhaka Stadium 9-15 am)

TT coaching camp

Sports Reporter

A four-week long table tennis coaching programme for the students of Rayerbazar High School ended at the school premises on October 29, Thursday.

Organised by the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation (BTTF) the coaching camp was attended by 35 girls and 30 boys.

The BTTF president Syed Yusuf Hossain presented some equipments for the games to the school authority on behalf of the federation, said a BTTF press release.

Dhumketu get a walk over

Sports Reporter

Panthers Club gave their second successive walk over in the super league of the Partex First Division basketball league at the wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

Dhumketu were the beneficiaries from the abstinence policy being adopted by Panthers, reportedly on a crusade campaign against the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation (BABF). Earlier, Panthers gave winners walkover in the first match after the eleven day lay off.

Points apart Panthers will not incur any weightier punitive measure as the league committee regulations have no such provision.

TODAY'S MATCH

Azad Boys vs Gregs Club

Mitchell plans comeback

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Oct 30: Brian Mitchell, who retired last year after winning the IBF junior lightweight crown from Tony Lopez, said Tuesday he would be willing to again fight Lopez, the new WBA lightweight champ, reports AP.

Mitchell, 32, and promoter Rodney Berman told a news conference they were trying to arrange a fight with Lopez in South Africa early next year.

Lopez defeated Joey Gamsagee on Saturday to win the WBA lightweight title, his third world title.

Mitchell and Lopez have fought twice. The first bout, a unification fight when Mitchell was WBA junior lightweight champion and Lopez held the IBF crown, ended in a draw.



Mohammedan Sporting's Rafiqul Alam plays a defensive shot against GMCC's Jahangir Talukder Dulu in yesterday's 14th Damal Summer second round opener at the Dhaka Stadium. Dulu's remarkable all-round performance guided GMCC to a thrilling six-run victory.

India take on Combined Bowl XI today

Controversy rages over Rice's future

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 30: The Indian cricket team play their first four-day match in South Africa from Saturday amidst a raging controversy over the future of former Springbok captain Clive Rice, reports AFP.

The Star newspaper reported Friday that Rice, 42, will not be considered for the India series unless he apologises for attacking the national selectors this year after being dumped for the World Cup.

The all-rounder, who captained South Africa to India last November, is one of the leading performers this year in the republic's domestic first class season.

But he is not among the shortlist of 24 for the India games named by the South African selectors, led by former Test fast bowler Peter Pollock.

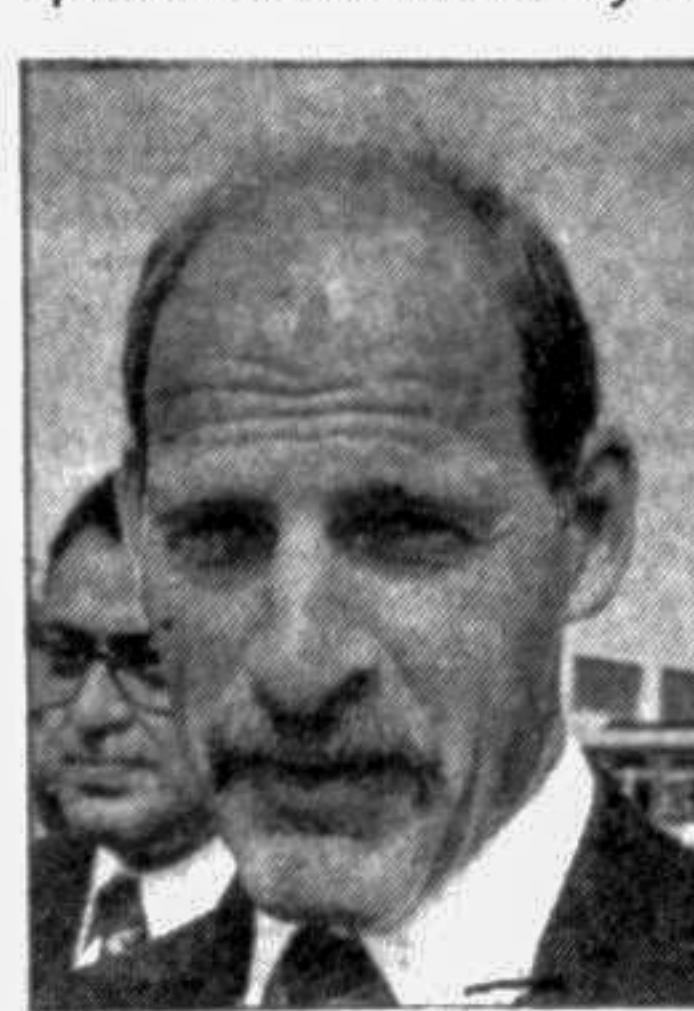
The Star said Pollock had approached the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) for a directive on Rice, who said recently he was still good enough to play Test cricket.

Rice played match-winning innings of 42 and 46 not out for Natal in the Benson and Hedges one-day tournament, and took eight for 42 against Kepler Wessels Eastern Provinces in the Castle Cup, the four-day domestic competition.

The Star quoted an unnamed UCBSA official as saying Rice would not be considered for selection till he apologised for alleging on national television that he was sacked be-

cause of a personality clash with the then chairman of selectors, Peter Van Der Merwe.

"No matter how well Rice performs for Natal in the run-up to the Tests and one-day in-



CLIVE RICE

ternationals, he will not be considered for the team," the official said.

The latest controversy comes eight months after the national selectors were heavily criticised for omitting Rice and two senior team-mates, Jimmy Cook and Peter Kirsten from a provisional 20-man squad for the World Cup.

Kirsten was subsequently reinstated on popular demand and was South Africa's Leading World Cup run-maker. Rice and Cook were ignored.

The selectors have included the 39-year-old Cook, a former Somerset opener, for the Indian tour but Rice continues to be left out.

The Indians take on a

Combined Bowl XI from Saturday in the first of the two four-day matches ahead of the first Test in Durban from November 13.

The Bowl team, led by English county player Michael Cann, comprises players from the minor provinces. One is a 47-year-old leg-spinner, Peter de Vaal.

The Indians second four-day match is against the President's XI, captained by Test player Hansie Cronje, at Centurion Park from November 6.

Indian tour manager Amrit Mathur said the two matches will give his players a chance to strike top form before the Tests.

"We had a good game on Thursday where Sachin Tendulkar's unbeaten 100 stood out," Mathur said.

"But a lot remains to be done. I want everyone to be at their peak form before the Test matches come along."

Mathur said all 16 players will get a look-in during the two first-class matches.

INDIA: Mohammad Azharuddin (capt), Ravi Shastri, Woorker Raman, Sanjay Manjrekar, Sachin Tendulkar, Praveen Amre, Ajay Deuja, Kapil Dev, Manoj Prabhakar, Javagal Srinath, Kiran More, Vijay Yadav, Subroto Banerjee, Chetan Sharma, Venkatapathy Raju, Anil Kumble.

COMINED BOWL XI: Michael Cann (captain), Neil Snyman, Brian Randall, Wayne Truter, Frans Cronje, Hendrik de Vos, Peter de Vaal, Terry Marsh, Claude Henderson, Wickus Botha, Henry Williams.

12th man: Shaun Andrews.

Bad experience for Larkins

BARBADOS, Oct 30: Former England opening batsman Wayne Larkins needed 20 stitches in chest, throat and stomach wounds after being mugged in Barbados where he was preparing to play in two charity matches, reports AFP.

His girlfriend Debbie was with him at the time of the incident which took place on Thursday outside a restaurant in the St James area of the Holiday Island which is visited by thousands of British tourists each year.

He was kept in hospital overnight after the attack on Wednesday but intends to remain in Barbados for today's match — although he will not play.

"It's been a bad experience but I don't want to say any more," Larkins declared as he watched his teammates practice on Wednesday.

Peter Short, a member of the West Indies Board of Control, said: "I understand that Mr and Mrs Larkins were approached by two men as they left the restaurant to return to their hotel after their evening meal."

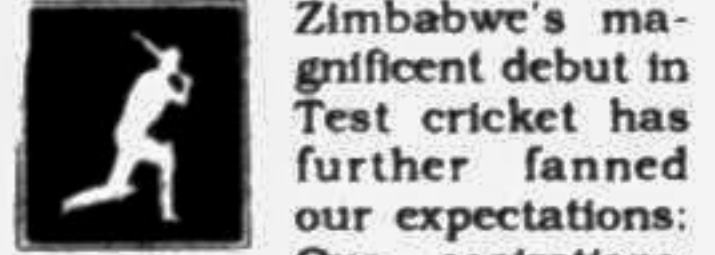
A police spokesman said: "The matter is under investigation but no-one has been arrested yet."

"Nothing was stolen but we are concerned that there should be a new outbreak of trouble in an area that has been free of such incidents for some time."

Larkins, 38, was due to take part in two old masters one-day matches between England and West Indies which have already suffered a severe financial blow when the sponsors pulled out.

Slipping through the fingers

By Tanveer Haider



Zimbabwe's magnificent debut in Test cricket has further fanned our expectations: Our aspirations round the Bangladesh national cricket team. The recent ICC decision to refix the number of participants in World Cup to 12 from nine (as it was in the last Benson and Hedges World Cup in Australia) could not have been better timed for teams like Bangladesh. Had it been a few years back one need not have bothered to pluralise the number of would-be participants in the World Championship of limited overs cricket. Bangladesh would have been the only team under the spotlight.

Erstwhile, Bangladesh was regarded as the immediate followers of Shri Lanka who got on board of the "Test" aircraft way back in 1982.

Although Bangladesh cricket has come a long way in terms of years and experience achievement on paper has so far been unimpressive. We have not been able to win the ICC Trophy at least once to justify our wistful longing to become a Test playing nation. Players have failed to rise to the occasion when it mattered most but the biggest problems lies in the set up of our cricket

eleven to hone the skills of their players. Now that Zimbabwe have made it to Test cricket, the years of hard work and training would hold them in very good stead at the highest level.

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board has the immense advantage of having the country's Foreign Minister as its president. The very designation and the identity of its president should have been of great help for the administrators. The Foreign Minister himself played cricket in his youth and should not be lacking in interest for the game. The poor personal contacts one is forced to infer is proving to be the BCCB's bane. The current office-bearers are more concerned about completing domestic engagements in time, which is a commendable thing. However, that should not make them forgetful of the fact that piles of records in a state, stagnant and stereotyped system cannot match the benefits one can reap from a proper international exposure, which is a *sine qua non* for the improvement of cricket in the country

(A former national cricketer Tanveer Haider is currently the vice-president of the Navana Premier Division cricket league committee.)

Shri Lankan cricketers who have now been taking part for different clubs in the local championships for some years now have also done a great job in promoting cricket here. Shri Lanka had its share of big names in cricket. Sir Garfield Sobers was there to help the then babes of Test cricket. He could not possibly give tips to each and every player but the mere presence of this great cricketer was enough to give a fillip to the game of the Emerald island. Shri Lanka could have been better of recordwise but for the problems created by the long drawnout Civil War.

Zimbabwe might improve their record better than the Shri Lanka because of the constant exposure they had before becoming a Test playing nation. If the seniors of England, West Indies, Pakistan, India or Australia were on Test duty the Zimbabwean cricket board made sure they had a junior

Courier tumbles out of Stockholm Open

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Oct 30: Red-hot Henrik Holm upset world No 1 Jim Courier 6-4, 6-3 on Thursday to move into the quarterfinals of the \$1.3 million Stockholm Open, reports AP.

Holm's victory came after reaching the semifinals at Sydney and the finals at Tokyo early this month, which improved his ranking to a career-high 23rd.

"Those results meant a lot for my confidence," he said. "This was a great victory, beating the world's top-ranked player in my hometown."

No 2 seed Stefan Edberg, a former two-time Stockholm Open champion and runner-up the past two years, joined his compatriot into the quarters with an easy 6-3, 6-4 win over Karel Novacek of Czechoslovakia.

Courier was playing only his second ATP tour match since losing in the US Open semifinals six weeks ago and his rustiness showed.

Holm, who switched to a women's wide-body racket after being sidelined with a shoulder injury for 12 weeks early this year, was down a break at the beginning of each set.

In the first set Holm broke back to 4-4 and added an-

other service break in the 10th game as the American hit a backhand passer wide at set point.

In the second set, Holm again fell behind 0-1 as he struggled with his serve. He levelled to 2-2 as Courier



JIM COURIER

dropped his serve. Then, the Swede faced three break points in his next two service games.

Holm's big serve got him out of trouble each time. He clawed back from a 15-40 hole before holding to 3-2. Behind 30-40, Holm aced Courier twice in a row and eventually held to 4-3.

Holm scored his decisive service break in the second set to lead 5-3 as Courier netted a tame forehand after a long rally.

"I know I can play serve and volley," Holm said. "But now I'm also very confident on the baseline. I dare to hit the ball, both with my forehand and backhand."

Pete Sampras, who lost the US Open final to Edberg, and four other seeded players posted straight-set wins in other third-round matches.

Sampras, who also reached the quarters here in 1990 and made the semis last year, beat Thomas Muster 6-2, 6-4 in one of the early matches at the Globe Arena.

No 4 Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia knocked off Magnus Gustafsson of Sweden 7-6 (7-2), 6-3; No 5 Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia breezed past former Wimbledon champion Michael Stich of Germany 6-3, 6-4; No 6 Boris Becker edged Amos Mansdorf of Israel 7-6 (9-7), 7-5, and No 8 Guy Forget of France beat Thomas Enqvist of Sweden 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

Becker has won the tournament three times, including

the last two editions on a faster surface than that being used this year. Because of the slower surface, the German, who has dropped to 10th in the rankings, can't dominate as much with his serve and volley game.

Sampras, meanwhile, dominated all the way against Muster for his third victory in as many matches over the Austrian and all have come on different surfaces. The previous wins came on hard court in the 1990 US Open and clay

in the 1991 French Open.

The third-seeded American is battling Courier and Edberg for the No 1 spot in the rankings going into the final month of the season.

Arnaud Boetsch, an unseeded Frenchman, earned the remaining berth in the quarters by outlasting Sweden's Christian Bergstrom 5-7, 6-3, 6-4. Boetsch will play Edberg.

The other quarterfinals include Sampras against Korda, Holm against Forget and Becker against Ivanisevic.

BCCB's big plans

Sports Reporter



Local cricket lovers may get a glimpse of some international cricketers early next year.

Wrapped in the tinsel of the old adage "there is many a slip betwixt cup and the lip" this carrot was dangled by Raisuddin Ahmed, the vice president of Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) after his return from the ACC meeting in Lahore, Pakistan, at an impromptu press conference at the BCCB office.

World champions Pakistan will reportedly pay a visit to Bangladesh on their way home from Down Under, where they are to play the triangular World Series Cup limited-overs contest along with Australia and the West Indies.

Although the Pakistan Cricket Control Board (BCCP) in principle agreed to the BCCB proposal uncertainty looms large over the yet undiscussed guarantee money of the visitors.

Although lot of ifs and buts are there in the aired tour of the Pakistan national team in mid-January Dhaka's role as the hosts of a four-nation tournament comprising South Asian countries is almost confirmed. Likely to be held in mid-December this year, the tournament will reportedly feature 'B' or second string teams from India, Shri Lanka and Pakistan while the hosts Bangladesh pit their best eleven.

The overtly tactician BCCB VP informed the 'lucky journalists' of the acceptance of too Bangladeshi proposals

for the improvement of the game in Asia. One outlined a trilateral tournament of the ICC Associate Members along with three full members of the ICC to add to the colour and quality of the tournament. The proposal, however, contains a rider clause that the ICC full members bear the expenses in the event of the tournament being staged in any of the Associate Member countries.

However, this stipulation will not matter if the oil rich United Arab Emirates (UAE) chips in to host the tournament.

The second Bangladesh proposal dealt with the exchange of visits of junior teams of the three Asian Test playing nations — India, Pakistan and Shri Lanka — and the other associate members of the ICC.

The Bangladesh national team will reportedly visit India, Shri Lanka and Pakistan prior to their departure for Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, the venue for the next ICC Trophy in Feb-March, 1994.

A foreign coach will soon be here to tune up the Bangladesh ICC Trophy squad. Although the BCCB vice president didn't mention any names, yet informed sources said former Pakistani Test star Mudassar Nazar and Waseem Raja or Indian Test star Mohinder Amarnath are the most likely candidate for the coach's job.

For the record, the present BCCB committee which has done very little regarding trips to Dhaka by foreign teams, had earlier promised to bring Pakistan and Shri Lanka immediately after the World Cup last March. Alas! nothing came of those grandiose plans.

Compared to other countries, e.g. Zimbabwe, our boys got or get, very little regular exposure. As the supreme governing body the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board has deplorably failed to sustain the growth and interest of the country's cricket. When constant exposure at the highest level of the game is the overriding need of the hour, our cricket board is sitting smug having brought an ordinary West Bengal team here last season. The promises of having India, Pakistan and Shri Lanka brought here have lapsed quietly.

The tight international cricket schedule tips off that the BCCB, with its formal straight-jacket approach, will not be able bring any team in the next two seasons, which is bad omen for the cricket lovers as well as the players of the country also. What the present board members lack most in flair and liaison with the outside world.

Shri Lankan cricketers who have now been taking part for different clubs in the local championships for some years now have also done a great job in promoting cricket here. Shri Lanka had its share of big names in cricket. Sir Garfield Sobers was there to help the then babes of Test cricket. He could not possibly give tips to each and every player but the mere presence of this great cricketer was enough to give a fillip to the game of the Emerald island. Shri Lanka could have been better of recordwise but for the problems created by the long drawnout Civil War.

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Ajay Jadeja plays a forward defensive stroke in Indian's first game of the historic SA tour against an invitation team in Johannesburg on Thursday. Jadeja scored 17. — AFP photo

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for the improvement of the game in Asia. One outlined a trilateral tournament of the ICC Associate Members along with three full members of the ICC to add to the colour and quality of the tournament. The proposal, however, contains a rider clause that the ICC full members bear the expenses in the event of the tournament being staged in any of the Associate Member countries.

However, this stipulation will not matter if the oil rich United Arab Emirates (UAE) chips in to host the tournament.

The second Bangladesh proposal dealt with the exchange of visits of junior teams of the three Asian Test playing nations — India, Pakistan and Shri Lanka — and the other associate members of the ICC.

The Bangladesh national team will reportedly visit India, Shri Lanka and Pakistan prior to their departure for Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, the venue for the next ICC Trophy in Feb-March, 1994.

A foreign coach will soon be here to tune up the Bangladesh ICC Trophy squad. Although the BCCB vice president didn't mention any names, yet informed sources said former Pakistani Test star Mudassar Nazar and Waseem Raja or Indian Test star Mohinder Amarnath are the most likely candidate for the coach's job.

For the record, the present BCCB committee which has done very little regarding trips to Dhaka by foreign teams, had earlier promised to bring Pakistan and Shri Lanka immediately after the World Cup last March. Alas! nothing came of those grandiose plans.