

Pakistanis, Lankans in town

Sports Reporter

Pakistan and Sri Lanka arrived last night to take part in the first-ever SAARC cricket tournament beginning in the city from tomorrow. India, the other foreign team in this four-nation limited-over competition, is due today.

All the three Test-playing nations will be represented by their second string teams as the more renowned cricketers of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are presently busy on tour on playing Test matches for their respective countries.

However, hosts Bangladesh, the literal underdogs of the tourney, will be represented by the pick of the cricketers culled by the selectors.

Organisers, Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), at a rather belated press conference aimed at highlighting the local cricket lovers' trickle-down yearly ration of international cricket termed



A 17-member Pakistan team, led by Test discard Moin Khan, arrived in Dhaka last night to participate in the first SAARC cricket championship which begins tomorrow. — Star Photo.

Ashraf off to Kenya

Sports Reporter

Former secretary of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) Syed Ashraf Huq left Dhaka yesterday afternoon for the Kenyan capital Nairobi to attend a meeting of the ICC Trophy management committee, to be held there from December 4 to 6.

The meeting is of great significance since the next ICC tournament for the Associate Members of the International Cricket Council will be held in Kenya in February, 1994.

The three best teams of that tourney will play in the 1995 World Cup along with the nine Test playing countries.

The ICC has nominated Ashraf as a member in the Trophy Management Committee.

Former national cricketer Ashraf Huq who holds an ICC Trophy bowling record of seven wickets against Fiji in 1983, attended the recent meeting of the Indo-Pak Joint Bid Committee for the next World Cup held in New Delhi earlier last month.

Biman still ahead

Sports Reporter

Reigning champions Bangladesh Biman stayed at the top of the points table at the end of the eleventh round beating Parijat Chess Club at the chess room of the National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday.

Ziaur Rahman, would-be IM of Bangladesh and FIDE Master Rezaat-bin-Sattar, the reigning national champion beat Moti and Chapal respectively.

Tahmidur Rahman, another FIDE Master playing for the airline team got a walkover against Morshed of Parijat while the only female Biman player, Tanima Parveen drew with Krishnapada to make the final scoreline 3.5-0.5 in favour of the holders.

Biman, who now lead the points table singularly have a 32 and a half points.

Bangladesh Ansars registered a 3.5-0.5 victory against Mohakhali Pradeep Sangha to follow Biman closely with 32 points. Kayes Hassan, Kalimullah Kalam and Arif were the winners against Tito, Pallab and Altaf respectively. Ansars' Jamilur Rahman, a FIDE Master drew with Farid of Mohakhali Pradeep Sangha.

Brothers Union were held to a two all draw by Pony Electronics. Pakistani International Master (IM) Mahmood Ahmed Lodhi, who is playing for Brothers Union beat Khaleq while his teammate Sheikh Anwar Hossain scored Taimur off in another match. Tayebur and Lenin reversed the trend beating Ziaul Qader Tuhin and Amir of Brothers Union respectively.

In the other engagements of the day, Dhaka University chess team beat Chalanika Kira Chakra 3.5-0.5, Farashanj Sporting Club downed Tilak Chess Club 3-1.

IOC solidarity course for athletics coaches

Sports Reporter

A fortnight long IOC solidarity course for athletics coaches begins today at the National Sports Council conference room.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka will inaugurate the programme. Two athletics experts — Harold Muller and Jorg Ramlow of Germany — will conduct the course which will be participated by 28 local coaches.

The theoretical classes will be held at the NSC conference room while the practical demonstration will take place at the Banani Army Stadium.

Organised by the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) the programme is being financed by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

the competition as a more sporting bid to uphold the spirit of camaraderie among the members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

Talking to newsmen yesterday at the BCCB office, the board general secretary Anjmul Huq Mont disclosed that the plan for the first-ever SAARC cricket tournament took time to gel because of the packed international schedule.

Originally designed as a competition among the under-21 teams with Bangladesh as the main beneficiaries, the tournament came into being during the meeting of the Asian Cricket Conference (ACC) held in Lahore on October 22 and 23, where BCCB vice president Ratsuddin Ahmed attended as the sole representative of Bangladesh.

Although the proposal of a tournament comprising the 'B' teams of the three Test playing nations — India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka — was unanimously accepted the local organisers were left with only 20 days for the necessary preparations.

The nine-day competition will cost the BCCB Taka 60 lakhs approximately, informed the BCCB official. Taka eight lakh is being spent for air passage of the three guest teams while the accommodation of the four participating teams at a local hotel — Purbani — will cost another 12 lakh. The BCCB will pay each player a daily allowance of 40 US dollars.

The BCCB official, who could not comment on the future of this competition, expressed optimism about a turnover of Taka 20 lakh from the gate receipts. "The future of this tournament depends a lot on the boards of the other countries but Bangladesh will always be ready to play the hosts in the event of non-availability in other SAARC countries," spelled out Moin.

A panel of seven former national cricketers who will be the adjudicators for the man-of-the-match awards was also announced. The selected seven are — Shamim Kabir, Shafiqul Huq Hira, Raquibul Hassan,

Jahangir Shah Badshah, Omar Khaled Rumi, Mainul Huq Mainu and Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu.

Man-of-the-match will receive a cash award of Taka 5,000 in the league matches while the man-of-the-final will be richer for Taka 10,000. However, the organisers are not giving any cash awards either to the champion or to the runners-up teams.

Meanwhile, a 12-member Pakistan cricket team led by World Cup wicketkeeper Moin Khan arrived last evening.

Moin, who is on his second trip to Bangladesh as a player, underscored the batting strength of his team and promised entertaining cricket.

Pakistan manager Mian Waseem Ahmed Nasir Bhatti, however, gave more importance to the participation of his team in this tournament as a booster for the spirit of SAARC.

The Pakistani squad will be complete with the arrival of one of its players — fast bowler Kabir Khan — within a day or two. Kabir, who stayed back, will be in Dhaka before the first match of the Pakistanis against arch-rivals India on December 4.

The Sri Lankans, however, appeared in full strength with Sahul Hameed Uvaisul at the helm.

A familiar face, the wry all-rounder who played for Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club in club cricket in Dhaka, singled out fielding as the forte of his youthful squad. Team manager Lawrence Amerasena was bold enough to utter a place for his side in the final of the tournament.

The Sri Lankan team consists of players from the divisional level, including two

school boys.

Meanwhile, last minute touches are being given for the tournament. The seven matches of the meet will be played on five pitches. G. Visvanath, an Indian journalist, has already arrived in the city to give a perceptive touch to the 100 newsmen, mostly local, who will be covering the four-nation competition.

Radio Bangladesh will give running commentary of all the seven matches. While Bangladesh Television will telecast live the first three matches.

The players to arrive in Dhaka yesterday are:

PAKISTAN: Moin Khan (captain), Zahid Fazal (vice-captain), Tanvir Mehd, Aamer Hanif, Basit Ali, Shahid Anwar, Shahid Javed, Aamer Basfir, Saeed Azad, Raj Hans, Nadeem Khan, Maqsood Rana and Muhammad Zahid. Manager — Moin Waseem Ahmed Nasir Bhatti, Asst. Manager — Prof. Ishtiaq Hussain Shah and Coach — Shafiqul Ahmed.

SRI LANKA: SHU Karmain (captain), Chaminda Mend (vice-captain), R. Arnold, J. Kumudu, Duminda Perera, N. Devaranjan, Sajith Fernando, Nishata Ranatunga, Ajith Ekanayake, Pubudu Dassanayake, Nisal Fernando, Wendall Labroy, Manjula Moonasinghe and Sajeeva Silva. Manager — Lawrence Amerasena and Asst. Manager — Lalith Kalupurana.

Seven umpires — five local and one each from Pakistan and India — will conduct the matches. They are M. Ikram Rabbani (Pakistan), S. K. Sharma (India) and Ataul Haq Mallik, Mohammad Asgar, Monjur Milky, S. B. Chaudhury Shisir and Abdul Aziz Sikder (Bangladesh).

FIXTURES

Dec 3 (Thursday):	Sri Lanka	VS	Bangladesh
Dec 4 (Friday):	India	VS	Pakistan
Dec 5 (Saturday):	Pakistan	VS	Bangladesh
Dec 6 (Sunday):	India	VS	Sri Lanka
Dec 7 (Monday):	India	VS	Bangladesh
Dec 8 (Wednesday):	Rest day		
Dec 9 (Wednesday):	Pakistan	VS	Sri Lanka
Dec 10 (Thursday):	Rest day		
Dec 11 (Friday):	Final (Position 1 VS Position 2)		

MCC members irked by Gower's omission

LONDON, Dec 1: The row over England's controversial exclusion of ex-captain David Gower from their winter tour of India is set to escalate on Tuesday night, reports Reuter.

Up to 200 members of the MCC, cricket's most famous club, will debate the decision which has prompted surprise and anger.

Businessman Dennis Oliver, spearheading a big protest, has presented a petition calling on all 17,000 MCC members to discuss a motion of no confidence in the selectors, so that they may "never again ride roughshod over public opinion."

Having obtained the signatures of 180 fellow MCC members, Oliver is entitled to demand a special meeting of the club.

But senior MCC officials, led by president Dennis Silk, will favour strongly-worded letter.

To arrange a special meeting would cost an estimated 17,000 pounds (dollar 26,000).

Gower, 35, made a successful return to the England team this year for the final three Tests against Pakistan.

He overtook Geoff Boycott as his country's leading Test run scorer in the Old Trafford Test, then produced a vital unbeaten 31 at Headingley to earn England a narrow victory.

But despite scoring 8,231 runs at an average of 44 in his 117 Tests, Gower could not get into the squad ahead of Graeme Hick (Test average 18) or Neil Fairbrother (8).



DAVID GOWER Gower will be going on the tour as a TV commentator and has indicated he would be ready to play if asked.

Inter-club tennis

Dhaka Club take on Officers' Club in the final of the first ever inter-club tennis championship at the National Tennis Complex in the city today at 2.45 pm, says a press release.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka will witness the match as the chief guest.

DU football

A fine hatrick by Partha powered Department of Statistics to a 3-0 victory over Department of Botany in the Dhaka University inter-department football tournament at the central playground yesterday.



A 16-member Sri Lankan squad arrived in Dhaka yesterday to take part in the first SAARC cricket tournament scheduled to begin tomorrow at the Dhaka Stadium seen with BCCB officials and fans. Sri Lanka launch their campaign in the opening match against hosts Bangladesh. — Star Photo

Wright reaches 5,000 Test runs milestone

NZ openers bat cautiously

MORATUWA, Sri Lanka, Dec 1: Veteran opener John Wright reached 5,000 Test runs as New Zealand frustrated Sri Lanka's hopes of turning the first Test in their favour with a dogged batting display on the fourth day here Tuesday, reports AFP.

The 38-year-old Wright playing in his 78th Test hit an unbeaten 38 and co-opener Blair Hartland notched his maiden Test 50 as New Zealand progressed at a snail's pace to 104 without loss before bad light suspended play with nine overs left of the day's quota of 62 overs.

Sri Lanka's poor slip fielding, in contrast to their superb show in the innings, let both batsmen off the hook. Hartland, playing in his fourth Test, was put down twice — on 12 and 31 — while Wright survived a chance when he was on six.

Their unbroken century stand in 222 minutes boosted New Zealand's chances of saving the Test, the 10th between the two sides, but the match remains interestingly poised with New Zealand leading by just 65 runs.

The right-handed Hartland, 12 years younger than Wright, scored five boundaries and provided excellent support to his senior partner, who collected four 4s in his 161-ball knock.

Earlier, Sri Lanka skipper Arjuna Ranatunga closed his side's first innings at 327 for six half an hour after play began, with seamer Michael Owens playing in his first Test, claiming his first two international scalps.

Light showers and a continuous drizzle delayed the start of the day's play by 135 minutes and reduced the day's quota of overs to 62.

Wright, New Zealand's highest run-getter, reached his 5,000th run with a glorious hook to the boundary off fast bowler Dulip Liyanage in the 32nd over. He had started the day with 4,975 runs.

The left-hander, who retired following the World Cup earlier this year was recalled

to prop up a New Zealand side depleted by the decision five players to return home after a bomb exploded near their hotel in Colombo in mid-November.

After facing some anxious overs against Sri Lanka's pace duo of Champaka Ramanyake and Dulip Liyanage, the New Zealand openers produced a stubborn display as they guided their side and reached the interval having scored just 24 runs from 18 overs.

But Wright and Hartland



JOHN WRIGHT ... 5,000 Test runs opened out in the final session, even if the former New Zealand captain had to call on all his extensive experience to weather a nagging spell from left-arm spinner Don Anura-siri.

Skipper Ranatunga, celebrating his 29th birthday Tuesday, tried six bowlers including himself to dislodge the pair, but both held on grimly until ailing light brought the day's play to an early close.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the first cricket Test between Sri Lanka and New Zealand today:

NEW ZEALAND: 1st innings 288

SRI LANKA: 1st innings (overnight 299 for four wickets)

Mahanama run out 153
Hathurusinghe c Jones

b Nash	10
Gurusinha c Vaughan	
b Su'a	43
De Silva c Nash b Su'a	62
Tilkeratne b Owens	1
Ranatunga c Parore b Owens	3
Wickremasinghe not out	13
Ramanyake not out	10
Extras: (7 lb, 16 nb, 9 w)	
32 Total: (for six wickets declared)	327
Fall of wickets: 1-27; 2-164; 3-297; 4-299; 5-300; 6-309	
Did not bat: Dulip Liyanage, Don Anurasiri, Jayananda Warnawera.	

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Su'a	25	6	62	2
Owens	17	3	63	2
Nash	18	2	61	1
Vaughan	14	0	56	0
Harris	15	5	64	0
Jones	1	0	3	0
Crowe	2	0	10	0

NEW ZEALAND: 2nd Innings	
Wright not out	38
Hartland not out	50
Extras: (nb 10, lb 6)	16
Total: (for no loss)	104

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Ramanyake	11	3	21	0
Liyanage	10	2	30	0
Hathurusinghe	8	5	11	0
Ranatunga	6	2	10	0
Anurasiri	10	5	13	0
Waranawera	4	0	13	0

Crowe feels Kiwis need a coach

MORATUWA, Sri Lanka, Dec 1: New Zealand skipper Martin Crowe said Tuesday his side were struggling in the first Test here partly because they were without a coach, reports AFP.

"Sri Lanka has a coach in Duleep Mendis, that is important. I wish he could come along and coach us because we have no coach," said Crowe in an interview with Sri Lanka's national television.

New Zealand coach Warren Lees returned home together with five key players following a bomb blast outside their Colombo hotel on the eve of a three-day match that was to have opened their tour.

Four replacements were flown in from New Zealand to prop up the depleted side and the tour programme was reduced by a week.

Admitting that he let the side down by dropping two catches from Sri Lanka's opening batsman Roshan Mahanama who went on to make a career-best 153, Crowe hoped the team would be better prepared for the second Test beginning Sunday.

Sri Lanka declared their first innings at 327 for six, half an hour after the rain-delayed fourth day's play commenced here. New Zealand made 288 in their first innings.

Crowe also reiterated his allegation that Sri Lanka's right-arm off-cutter Jayananda Warnawera was a "chucker".

"Warnawera may have evidence he is not a chucker but we have two days of evidence. Anyway as nothing is being done I will not waste my time. We have to face him so we will work hard on how to keep him out," Crowe said.

Crowe was one of two players to fall to Warnawera in the first two days of the first Test. The Sri Lankan umpires dismissed Crowe's charge saying no umpire had warned Warnawera when he toured India and New Zealand earlier.

Warnawera said that during the New Zealand tour in 1990 the umpires had studied his action on video in several slow motion replays but had found nothing wrong.

Judo-karate camp

Sports Reporter

A special coaching camp for boys and girls on judo and karate under coach Khurshid Alam Naqib is being held regularly at the Mirpur Stadium, says a Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation press release.

Tobacco sponsorship of sports: A moral dilemma

PARIS, Dec 1: Athletes and sports leaders around the world are facing up to a growing moral dilemma over the money they receive from tobacco companies, reports AFP.

While evidence mounts over smoking-related deaths, many sports and top competitors are embarrassed at the links. But they fear their financial lifeline could be cut with an end to the huge sponsorship deals.

France could lose its Formula One Grand Prix because of strict new advertising laws. The Motor Racing Federation has only been partly reassured by hints of an amendment. Australian cricket was split recently by a row over international Greg Matthews' appearance in an anti-smoking advert.

Golf, soccer, tennis, horse-racing and many other high profile sports all worry about their image as governments clamp down on smoking and the public cuts back on the habit. To add to recessionary concerns, tobacco companies are already cutting back on the hundreds of millions of dollars they pump into sport each year.

Health experts are being increasingly insistent as they question how sportsmen can accept money for promoting what many doctors call a killer product.

The appearance of Australian bowler Matthews in an advert, in which he was seen crushing a cigarette packet, sparked a debate on tobacco sponsorship in one of the world's proudest sporting nations.

Cigarette sponsorship is worth an estimated 20 million

Australian dollars (14 million US) a year. Winfield are believed to put eight million dollars into rugby league, and Benson and Hedges are cricket's principal financial backer. It has also spent heavily on English county cricket.

The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) fined Matthews a quarter of his 1992 contract fee — an undisclosed but large sum — for breaching rules forbidding criticism of sponsors or harming the game's image.

"This is a normal, sensible and commercial provision and the nature of the sponsor's product is irrelevant," said ACB chairman Alan Crompton.

Former Australian captain Ian Chappell led players' criticism of Matthews.

"If you sign a contract with the ACB and you're prepared to accept that sponsorship money then you're putting yourself in their camp," he said.

Matthews refused to comment on the fine, though he admitted, ironically, that he took up smoking again on a recent tour of Sri Lanka. But the government took up his case.

Health Services Minister Peter Staples said the fine indicated "The ACB's immense sensitivity to being sponsored by a product that contributes to the death of one in three people if taken as prescribed."

The minister is pushing ahead with legislation to end rugby league's tobacco money from the end of 1995 and for cricket at the end of the 1995-96 season. Neither sport knows where it will find replacement cash.

pass through Parliament before Christmas, according to Staples, who with Sports Minister Ros Kelly, drew it up.

But internationally televised events, such as Formula One races and motor cycle Grands Prix, will be able to apply for exemptions to ensure they are not lost to another country.

Political expediency may soften even tougher French legislation which has made some Formula One teams fear



IAN CHAPPELL

their cars will be impounded if they enter France.

"The situation at the moment is that there will be no French Grand Prix in 1993," said Jean-Marie Balestre, president of the French Auto Sport Federation and a former head of the world governing body FISA.

That was until a weekend appeal to Prime Minister Pierre Berégovoy. Berégovoy is also mayor of Nevers, only 10 miles from the Magny-court circuit where the Grand Prix is provisionally scheduled for next July 1.

He said amendments to the so-called Evrin Law on tobacco and alcohol advertising may be

necessary to save the Grand Prix and other motor racing events.

Balestre sounded the alarm after the world body demanded he make the authorities promise no team will be punished for competing in France with the name of tobacco companies on cars.

FISA's threat to the French Grand Prix came after a recent court case taken by the national committee against to-



ENSON & HEDGES WORLD CUP 1992

France in the western city of Quimper.

Last year's law covers even advertising at events in other countries that are shown on French television.

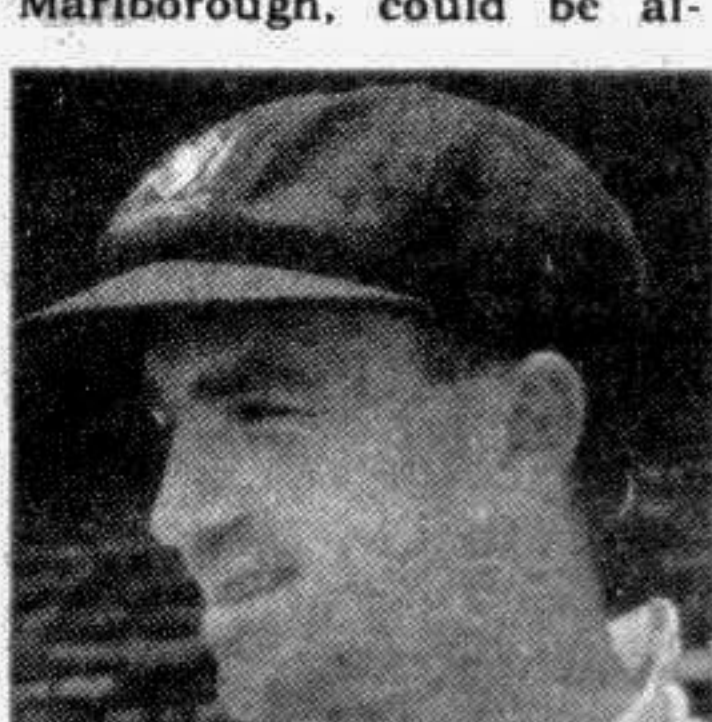
The Quimper court ordered Williams, the 1992 world constructors title winner, to pay a 30 million franc (six million dollar) fine if the logo of its French tobacco brand sponsors Camel was seen in the season-closing Australian Grand Prix on November 8. It was, but Williams are unsure about the fine.

The court ruled the British team should also pay 30 million francs for every future race in which it displayed the Camel name on television. Renault, who make Williams

engines, were fined five million francs and threatened with similar penalties.

FISA expressed concern that Williams could have its cars impounded in place of the fines if they were brought to France, even if only in transit for a race in another country.

With so many Formula One teams relying on cigarette companies, even Williams' rivals such as McLaren, linked to Marlborough, could be af-



GREG MATTHEWS

framed.

Citroen and Mitsubishi-France were warned by the court not to publicise the Camel make on their rally cars. And Balestre said the whole French motor racing industry was threatened.

The 500 million francs (100 million dollars) a year in tobacco sponsorship makes a significant contribution to one of the strongest car and motor-cycling racing nations in the world.

World famous events such as the Le Mans 24-hour race and motorcycle Grand Prix are also looking anxiously at developments. Balestre reck