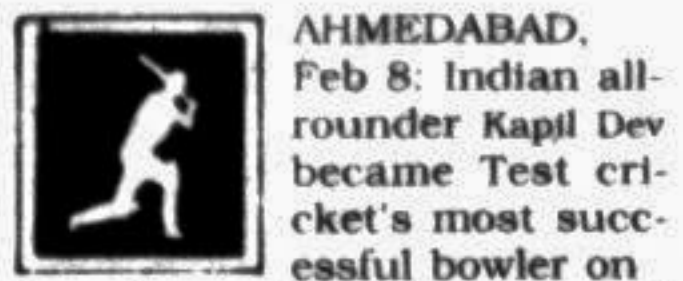


Kapil eclipses Hadlee's mark as

India tweak SLinside out



AHMEDABAD, Feb 8: Indian all-rounder Kapil Dev became Test cricket's most successful bowler on Tuesday as Sri Lanka faced another humiliation in the third Test here, reports AFP.

The 35-year-old Kapil, who equalled Sir Richard Hadlee's record tally of 431 in the second Test in Bangalore last week, made the honours his own by scalping Hashan Tillekeratne in controversial fashion 63 minutes into the first day's play.

The ball lobbed gently to Sanjay Manjrekar at forward short leg, and while the batsman indicated it went off his pad, debutant umpire A L Narshimhan ruled him caught off the bat in the face of an Indian appeal.

While Kapil and an entire cricket-crazy nation celebrated, the Sri Lankans were spun out for a dismal 119 on the first day of the third and final Test of the series on a vicious turner at the Motera Stadium here.

Touring captain Arjuna Ranatunga's broad smile at winning the toss for the first time in the series vanished as the innings folded up in less than three hours off just 63.5 overs.

The Indians replied with 90 for one by stumps and looked set to complete a 3-0 white-wash after winning both the first two Tests by huge innings margins.

Left-arm spinner Venkatesh Raju hogged the spotlight from leggie Anil Kumble with a five-wicket haul that mesmerised the flat-footed Sri Lankan batsmen.

Off-spinner Rajesh Chauhan took three for eight from 11 overs while Kumble, who scalped 83 victims in his first 14 Tests, managed only a solitary wicket.

Number 10 Pramodaya Wickramasinghe hit two boundaries and a six in a top score of 22 as six Sri Lankan batsmen — four among the top seven — failed to reach double figures.



RAJU... 5 for 38

The tourists had no clue as to how to tackle spin on an underprepared wicket where the ball turned sharply and kept low, and the Indians responded with an on the field lesson.

The Sri Lankan attack was made to look pedestrian by opener Navot Sidhu and Vinod Kambli who added 63 runs for the unfinished second wicket after Manoj Prabhakar had fallen for 12 with the score at 27.

Prabhakar was bowled by a sharp arm ball from left-arm spinner Don Anurasiri after smashing the previous ball over long off and clean over

the fence. At stumps Sidhu was batting on 29 while left-handed Kambli was on a sparkling 45 inclusive of eight fours.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the third and final Test between India and Sri Lanka today:

Table with columns: Sri Lanka, India, Extras, Total, Fall of wickets. Includes bowing figures for Prabhakar, Kapil, Kumble, Raju, Chauhan.

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Includes figures for Prabhakar, Kapil, Kumble, Raju, Chauhan.

INDIA: First Innings Prabhakar b Anurasiri 14 Sidhu not out 29 Kambli not out 45 Extras: (1 b-2) 2 Total: (for one wicket) 90

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Includes figures for Anuradith, S Tendulkar, M Azharuddin, S Manjrekar, Kapil Dev, N Mongia, A Kumble, R Chauhan, V Raju.

Whitney calls it a day

SYDNEY, Feb 8: Former Australian Test bowler Michael Whitney Tuesday announced his retirement from cricket, reports AP.

Whitney, 34, said at the launch of his autobiography "Quick Whit" that injuries had forced him to make the decision.

Whitney, a left-arm pace bowler, suffered a knee injury after only four overs of New South Wales' first match of the season against New Zealand at Newcastle in October and aggravated the injury in a brief comeback to local club cricket two weeks ago.

Whitney had a career-best match haul of 11 wickets for 95 runs in a Test against India in 1991 in Perth. He took 4-68 in the first innings and 7-27 in the second.

Whitney played a total of nine Tests between 1981 and 1991 but was rarely a first choice.

Bodyguards for Aussies in SA

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 8: The United Cricket Board of South Africa has provided armed guards for the Australian cricket team in case of violence during the country's transition to black rule, reports AP.

The hosts have hired three bodyguards to travel with the team at all times during their nine-week visit, board officials said Tuesday.

"We are taking precautionary measures to ensure us against potential trouble," said Ali Bacher, the managing director of the UCB. The three men will travel with the Australians at all times but would try to remain as discrete as possible to protect their identities.

This is Australia's first visit to South Africa in 24 years and comes as the country prepares for their first multiracial election April 26-28. Several parties are threatening to boycott the vote because of differences with the African National Congress, the main black party and the expected winner of the election.

Negotiations aimed at resolving the political problems have failed, and there are fears political violence will soon erupt as extremists try to disrupt the transition from white-minority rule.

So far, the Australians have had few chances to encounter trouble, being confined to their hotel rooms because of incessant rain. On Monday they managed a two-hour workout in the morning at the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg and then spent the afternoon at a lion park north of the city.

A planned tour of the black township of Soweto was cancelled Tuesday because of rain. Bacher said bodyguards were part of normal security procedures for teams visiting South Africa. "We did it for the Indian, Pakistani and West Indian teams last season as part of our security arrangements," he said. "We just refer to them as the Australians' friends."

The tour officially gets underway Thursday in the form of a social game against diamond magnet Nikki Oppenheimer's Invicta XI at Midrand, between Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Apolitical chat

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 8: African National Congress (ANC) President Nelson Mandela and former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke chatted about mainly cricket when they met Tuesday, reports AFP.

Hawke is in South Africa as a guest of the United Cricket Board and will speak at a banquet welcoming the Australian cricket team later Tuesday, before returning to home on Wednesday.

Mandela, a keen cricket supporter, could not be tempted by journalists into predicting who would win the three-match Test series between South Africa and Australia.

"I hope the result will be a true reflection of the standard of play," Mandela said. The Australian team is the first to visit South Africa since Bill Lawry's tourists of 1969-70 and in addition to the three Tests, eight one-day internationals have been scheduled.

Mandela was reminded that he had seen Australian cricketers in action before, in Durban in 1949.

"That was a very interesting day. The Australians were in trouble and even with Neil Harvey at the bat, the South Africans won the day," Mandela said.

Caddick injured

ST. JOHNS, Antigua, Feb 8: Injured England pace bowler Andy Caddick will have a bone scan in Barbados today to determine whether he has suffered a stress fracture of the right leg, reports Reuter.



Delegates from the South African team attend the flag raising ceremony of the XVII Winter Games at the Olympic Village in Lillehammer on Feb 7.

A freaky case of atavism

LILLEHAMMER, Feb 8: Call it the Greek-American dream.

Defying all logic, a brother and sister from Minnesota who are new to winter sports competition and barely speak Greek are in Lillehammer to represent Greece at the Winter Games. They did it by creating their ancestral country's first bobsled and luge teams, reports AP.

"When we started out, we said the odds of making it here might be about 10,000 to 1," said Greta Sebald, beaming the slightly wide-eyed smile of a fan as she watched other Olympians walk by in the athletes' village Sunday.

Looking back, the 28-year-old now figures it might have been more like 2 million to 1. "It's still kind of a shock to be standing here," agreed her big brother Greg, a slender 30-year-old wearing a Minnesota Twins T-shirt and a baseball cap reading Greek Bobsleigh.

They owe it to family ties to the old country and scads of cash, but mostly lots of tenacity. And, oh yes — they had to learn their sports well enough to qualify on a world-class level.

"There's been a ton of hurdles to get over," said the driver of Greece's sole Olympic bobsled, who recruited a physical education teacher from Thessaloniki to be his brakeman.

Despite efforts by the International Olympic Committee to weed out Olympic wannabes and no-hopers — qualifying standards have been tightened since the Albertville Olympics two years ago — the Sebalds and Spiro Pinas of the world continue to find ways to realize their wildest dreams.

Pina, another Minnesotan representing Greece, is the winter sports veteran of the trio with three years' experience on the US junior team. But the 20-year-old luger from St. Paul, a University of Minnesota sophomore, is equally "blown away" by the

Olympic experience. The three aren't the only hyphenated Americans taking advantage of their heritage at these Games.

Three men from Rochester Hills, Mich., qualified to represent San Marino in the two-man bobsled competition — Greek are in Lillehammer to represent Greece at the Winter Games. They did it by creating their ancestral country's first bobsled and luge teams, reports AP.

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Olympic experience. The three aren't the only hyphenated Americans taking advantage of their heritage at these Games.

Izetbegovic's pledge

LILLEHAMMER, Feb 8: Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, whose capital Sarajevo staged its Winter Games opening ceremony 10 years ago on Tuesday but is now under siege, has pledged to observe an Olympic truce, reports Reuter.

The International Olympic Committee said in a press release that Izetbegovic had sent a message to IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch welcoming the truce initiative.

The truce, following an ancient Greek tradition, was supposed to last from a week before the February 12-27 Lillehammer Games until a week after they end.

But last Saturday, the day the truce should have begun, a mortar attack killed 68 people in Sarajevo and wounded nearly 200.

"We the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina ... are fervently seeking righteous peace and the end of our sufferings," Izetbegovic said. "We shall commit to the observance of this truce, as well as to the release of prisoners, hoping that these actions will meet their aims."

To mark the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Sarajevo Games, Lillehammer began a day of solidarity on Tuesday, urging people to write messages of peace in a special book on the Norwegian town's main square to be handed to the besieged city's mayor.

Italian ancestry compete for Italy's Olympic hockey team. He had played sports in high school — basketball and track — before becoming an arm-chair athlete.

But he had an Olympic advantage: a Greek-born grandfather. Olympic rules allow athletes to compete on teams from a country other than that of their birth if they can show ancestral ties.

"I said, 'Hey, I can do this,'" Sebald said. "I don't skate, and I only ski some, but I'd always wanted to do the bobsled."

His sister felt similarly about the luge. "I'm pretty much into crazy things — skydiving, white-water rafting, I like the thrill."

A US Bobsled Federation official told Sebald, "I don't think you've got a snowball's chance in hell" to make it to the Olympics.

But he turned elsewhere, and after many other calls to bobsled, luge and Greek officials to find out if it was feasible, the siblings from Askov, Minn., headed to schools for their respective sports.

Sebald went to Calgary, Alberta, where he "watched all the Irish guys crash" and gained some confidence in his own skills. Greta headed to Lake Placid, N.Y.

Rolling the dice some more, Sebald spent six months hunting for a strong, swift athlete to be his brakeman before settling on Christodoulos Marinou, a 29-year-old teacher who enthuses: "I'm really in history. Everybody in Greece is excited for me."

Then there were the costly matters of renting a bobsled (dhs 6,000 for the year) and hiring a coach (they share one with American Samoa at dhs 800 a week.) All told, Sebald estimates he has spent dhs 25,000 to dhs 30,000 in the Olympic quest.

Finally, he took a leave from his job in November and headed to Calgary to meet teammate for the first time and try to qualify for Lillehammer.

Thai Farmers win Asian Club soccer

BANGKOK, Feb 8: An unbeaten Thai Farmers Bank team ploughed to victory in the 13th Asian Club tournament on Monday, defeating the Omani Club of Oman 2-1 in a fast-paced final, reports Reuter.

A Thai win — their first in the tournament — looked likely after the energetic Southeast Asians put two goals away in the first 17 minutes, the second a perfectly executed lob by full-back Sing Totavee over Omani national keeper Yousof Obaid.

A mixture of quick breaks and smooth passing allowed the Thai Farmers Bank to dominate most of the first half, boosted by a lively home crowd at the Bangkok National Stadium. As the Omani side rarely troubled the sure-footed Thai goalkeeper.

But the Thais, surprise finalists after a 3-1 victory over Japan's Yomiuri Nippon, weakened as the half came to an end, allowing a settled Omani side to narrow the gap with a strong header by Zahid Salim seconds before the half-time break.

Omani recovered in the second half, putting heavy pressure on the Thai defence and forcing keeper Nipone Malanond into some acrobatic saves from a succession of attacks.

Lillehammer profits

LILLEHAMMER, Feb 8: The Lillehammer Olympics, opening on Saturday, will net a Winter Games commercial record of 525 million dollars in revenue, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said on Monday, reports Reuter.

"Lillehammer is set to break all Olympic Winter Games records, which is a particular pleasure because it comes from the basis of such a small country," marketing commission chairman Dick Pound told a news conference.

LILLEHAMMER GAMES NOTEBOOK

LILLEHAMMER, Norway, Feb 8: Jarred by the weekend shelling that killed 68 people in Sarajevo, Bosnia's Winter Olympics team plans to inject a sombre note at Saturday's opening ceremonies, reports AP.

Ibrahim Slipcevic, a team official, said the national flag would be carried at half staff when the Bosnians take their turn in the parade of athletes and coaches.

"It's not just for this latest tragedy," he said Monday. "It's for everything that's happened."

Slipcevic said the flag carrier hadn't been chosen yet. The team is still waiting for the arrival of Izudin Filipovic, the head of the National Olympic Committee, who remains trapped in besieged Sarajevo.

ATLANTA SCALES BACK: A top IOC official said Monday he was not surprised by the shrinking revenue forecasts for the 1996 Summer Games in Atlanta.

On Wednesday, Atlanta organisers presented a budget that showed increased costs and slightly lower revenues compared to forecasts a year ago.

The new figures show overall expenditures of dhs 1.52 billion and revenues of dhs 1.58 billion. Last year, expenditures were forecast at dhs 1.47 billion and revenues at dhs 1.59 billion.

Dick Pound, the IOC's top marketing official, said it is not unusual for Olympic budget estimates to change from year to year.

"It's a process of sharpening of focus," he said. "Things change. It is not surprising to see budget tightening in Atlanta. They have a clearer idea of what they are going to spend and generate. Their revenue figures have always been aggressive."

"I don't think anyone has under-performed or overestimated grossly, Pound said. "I think we're in an area of comfort."

He suggested the financial picture may not have worsened as much as it appears.

"The best way to get people off your back is to make estimated profit disappear," he said.

HIGH COST OF CLEANLINESS: At dhs 4 for a pair of socks or underwear, official laundry prices in Lillehammer are provoking

grumbles even before most of the Olympic family has had time to unpack.

Even the director general of the International Olympic Committee, Francois Carrard, vented his displeasure about the high prices in effect at all lodgings run by the local organisers.

The Lillehammer Organising Committee acknowledged Monday that complaints were mounting and promised to consult with the firms involved. It even contacted the government agency that monitors possible price-fixing violations, but said the agency was powerless to intervene if the various laundry companies had not colluded in setting prices.

WINTER GOLF: The medal events don't start until Sunday, but competition among athletes already is hot and heavy on the par-12 indoor miniature golf course at the Olympic Village.

Perhaps befitting their climatic origins, Australians dominate the leader board so far. Bobsledders Glen Carroll and Scott Walker and luger Roger White were tied Monday for best score to date with 4-under-par 8s.

USOC to decide Harding's fate

LILLEHAMMER, Feb 8: The US Olympic Committee said Tuesday it will call a hearing on whether to dismiss Tonya Harding from the figure skating team at the Winter Games, reports AP.

Harding's lawyers have been notified of the decision and she will be asked to appear, the USOC said. There was no immediate word if Harding would testify.

The hearing will be held in Oslo next Tuesday, three days after the Winter Olympics begin but six days before the deadline for substituting members of the women's figure skating lineup.

"The hearing will deal with the issues of conduct which have been raised during the last several weeks during the law enforcement investigations into the attack on skater Nancy Kerrigan ... and the US Figure Skating Association's review as it relates to the same issues," a USOC statement said.

Any decision reached by the 13-member Games Administrative Board is final. If she is dismissed, she would have to go to court if she wanted to regain her spot on the team.

Harding has a paid roundtrip plane ticket to Oslo as a member of the US Olympic team. The board must determine who pays for transporting Harding's attorneys and witnesses, and USOC president LeRoy Walker will decide how many votes are needed to reach a verdict.

Last Saturday, a US Figure Skating Association panel found "reasonable grounds" to believe Harding was involved in the plot to injure Kerrigan and knock her out of the national championships on Jan 6. It sent the matter to an in-

ternal disciplinary panel and gave Harding 30 days to respond. Harding's lawyers in Portland, Ore., said Monday that Harding was "concentrating on her preparation for the Olympics and working with her attorneys on a response to the request of the USFSA."

Harding would make no further statements for 72 hours.



TONYA HARDING

Because of the 30-day window, it's unlikely the USFSA inquiry will be finished before the Winter Olympics close.

USOC executive director Harvey Schiller said the 400 pages of evidence gathered by the figure skating panel were among the factors that would help decide if the USOC panel hears the Harding case. The information was expected in Lillehammer by Wednesday, Moran said.

National polls in recent days found that most Americans think Harding knew in advance about the attack, but most think she should be allowed to skate in

the Olympics if she is not charged with a crime.

CBS News reported Monday that its poll found 54 per cent think Harding was involved in planning the Kerrigan attack and 63 per cent say Harding is lying about what took place. Those results from a poll of 900 adults Sunday have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

A grand jury in Portland, Ore., is investigating what role, if any, Harding played in the assault on Kerrigan.

Harding has admitted that she learned details of the plot after it happened, but failed to immediately tell authorities what she knew. She said she feared retaliation from her ex-husband, Jeff Gillooly, if she revealed her information.

Gillooly pleaded guilty to a racketeering count in a plea bargain and has testified that Harding was involved in the plot and the cover-up.

At the Olympics, Harding and Kerrigan won't room together, but they will practice together.

Following a long-held policy of having teammates train together, the International Skating Union assigned the two Americans to the same Practice Group 1 at the Hamar Olympic Amphitheatre.

"Absurd," said Kerrigan's coach, Evi Scottvold.

Once Harding gets here, if she comes, there's a room reserved for her in the Olympic Village in Hamar, Norway, site of the figure skating competition.

There's a room there, too, for Kerrigan, whose assault inside a Detroit arena last month has been linked to Harding.

Kerrigan will definitely live in the village, and wants to march in the parade of athletes when the Olympics open Saturday, Scottvold said.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Pinocchio, at times; 5 Ray designation; 9 Surface for grapplers; 12 Pinnacle; 13 Literary conflict; 14 Foreign friend; 15 Ersatz booster seat; 17 Heavy weight; 18 "brillig..."; 19 Fortunate; 21 Seaweed; 24 Network; 25 Ump's call; 26 Having a handle, maybe; 30 St. crosier; 31 Swift mammals; 32 Erstwhile acorn; 33 Back to normal; 35 Apple variety; 36 Aquarium; 37 Prodded; 38 "Zoo" story author; 40 Common rhyme scheme; 42 Stock reply?; 43 Clippings container; 48 Halloween cry; 49 "Hail to..."; 50 End of Napoleon's palindrome; 51 Squid squirt; 52 Calendar quota; 53 Check DOWN; 1 You can't; 20 Amer. stand to have one; 2 JFK pronoun; 3 Part of a Latin I trio; 4 Car for temporary use; 5 Rum cake; 6 Hollywood clashers?; 7 Very; 8 Short socks; 9 Where to find striking red-heads?; 10 Frenzied; 11 Wee; 16 Lamb's dam; 21 Worshiper's place; 22 Naught, to Nastase; 23 Wedding souvenir; 24 Post horse?; 26 Play area; 27 Raw rock; 28 — duck; 29 Just got by; 31 Billy Joel hit; 34 Snatch, to Burns; 35 He's with the band; 37 Infant's food; 38 Both: prof.; 39 Exemplar of craziness; 40 Neighborhood; 41 "Beverly Hillbillies" cast member; 44 Ernesto Guevara; 45 Bullring bravo; 46 Kimono accessory; 47 Nebr. neighbor.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with numbers 1-53 indicating letter positions.

CRYPTOQUIP Z C G T R B K J L V C W F K X K Z T V O G W K X R G T R T K J O K C J L G W F V T J

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CLARK KENT, THE MAN OF STEEL, SHOPS AT THE LOCAL SUPER-MARKET.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: O equals W

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