

WEEKEND SPORTS WEEKEND

Can Caribbeans break the jinx?

By Asrarul Islam Chowdhury



New Zealand are the only Test playing country against whom the West Indies do not hold a rubber presently. Barring the one-off Test against the Lankans in Sri Lanka (which was abandoned due to rain), Windies have clamoured all Test playing nations (except Zimbabwe, whom they have not met in Tests) more than once (except South Africa, whom they have faced only once on home soil and beat in style). New Zealand is also the last Test team to which the Windies lost a rubber in 1979-80 in the three-match rubber which the Kiwis won 1-0 (2 drawn).

Windies gained Test status in 1928 and the Kiwis the following year. However, it was in 1951-52 that the two teams faced each other in Tests. The present article offers a quick look into the annals of Tests played between the two teams in the wake of the forthcoming three-match rubber in Kiwi land. Among all the rubbers played between the two countries, only the 1971-72 series was held in the Windies.

1951-52 series: The first rubber between the two teams involved two matches. The first Test was held at Lancaster Park, Christchurch from Friday 8 to Tuesday 12 February 1952. The two captains were B Sutcliffe for New Zealand and Jeffrey Goddard for the Windies. The umpires were MF Pengelly and B Vinc. The Windies won by five wickets. The match was a low-scoring affair. New Zealand scored 236 and 139, while Windies 287 and 142/5. No centuries were scored by batsmen on either side. The top scores for New Zealand were 45 each by VJ Scott and B Sutcliffe in the first innings, while for the Windies, Sir Frank Worrell top scored with 71 in the first innings and also remained unbeaten on 52, the top score in the next Windies innings. The bowlers of both sides, however, set their marks. For New Zealand, TB Buritt took 5/69 and 2/37, while for Windies, Sonny Ramadhin, the Trinidadian spinner, took 5/86 and 4/39.

The second Test at the Eden Park, Auckland, was drawn. Windies amassed a colossal 546/6 declared (dec), to which the Kiwis followed on at 160 and in the third innings and finished the match at 171. The main features of the test were 99 from Allan Rae, and tons from Jeffrey Stollmeyer (182), Sir Frank Worrell (100) and Clyde Walcott (115). Windies clinched the two-match rubber 1-0 (1 drawn).

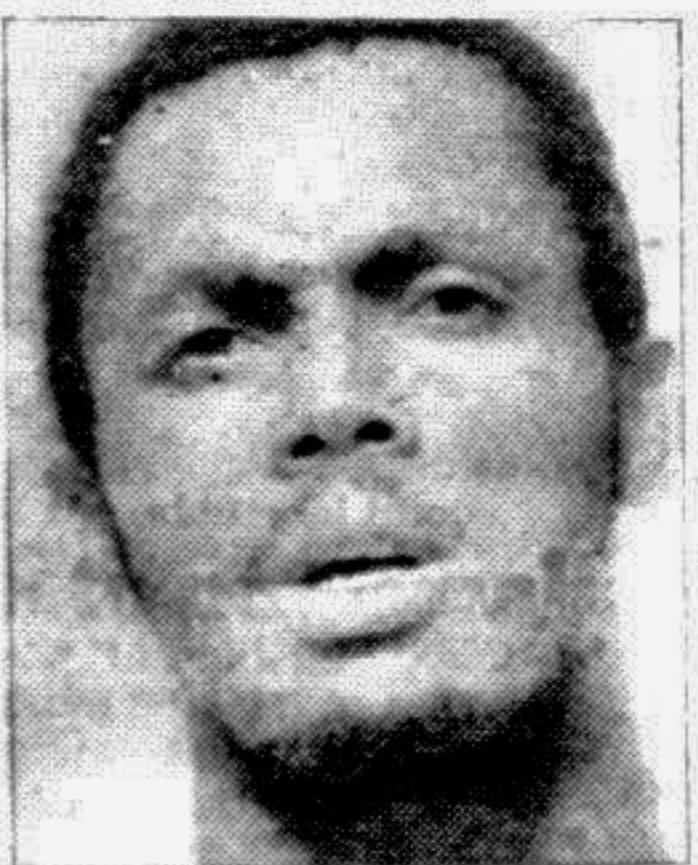
1955-56 series: This rubber consisted of four matches. Decisions were reached to each match. The end result went in favour of the Windies, 3-1. In the first Test at Carisbrook, Dunedin, Windies won by an innings and 71 runs. New Zealand, batting first, were bundled out for a meagre 77. Again, it was Ramadhin who played the pivotal role, taking 6/23 and following up with 3/58 in the next innings. Windies responded with 353 with a ton from Everton Weekes (123). The Kiwis were then again bundled out for 208. In the second Test at Lancaster Park, Christchurch, Windies again prevailed, this time by an innings and 64 runs. Weekes again scored a ton (103) in Windies' total of 386. New Zealand followed on at 158 and managed to get only 164 in the next. Again, the destroyer was Ramadhin who took 5/46 and in the second innings another spinner, this time from Jamaica, Valentine took 5/32 in the second Kiwi innings. The third Test at the Basin Reserve, Wellington, also went in favour of the tourists this time by nine wickets. Windies scored 404 and 131/1 with Weekes registering a third consecutive ton (156) in the first innings. New Zealand managed 208 in both innings. Atkinson of the Windies took 5/86 in the second Kiwi innings. The fourth Test at the Eden Park, Auckland, went in favour of the hosts who registered their first Test victory against the Windies by 190 runs. New Zealand batting first, scored 255 and 157/9 dec, while the Windies followed on at 145 and were bundled out for a meagre 77 in the third innings. The most successful Kiwi bowler, H B Cave, took 4/22 and 4/21. For the Windies, D T Dewdney took 5/21 and 0/22 and D St E Atkinson took 0/45 and 7/53.

1959-60 series: This three-match rubber ended 1-1 (1 drawn). In the first Test at the Eden Park, Auckland, Windies won by 5 wickets. The Kiwis batting first, scored 323 and 297/8 dec, while Windies scored 276 and 346/5. B R Taylor for the Kiwis, scored 124 in the first innings, while for Windies, Carew got a ton

(109) in the first innings and S M Nurse in the second (168). New Zealand restored parity in the second Test at the Basin Reserve, Wellington, winning by six wickets. Windies batting first, scored 297 and 148. The Kiwis scored 282 and 166/4. R C Motz took 6/69 and 2/44 for the Kiwis, while for Windies, R M Edwards took 5/84 in the first Kiwi innings. The third Test at Lancaster Park, Christchurch was drawn. Windies batted first and amassed 417 with S M Nurse registering his second ton of the rubber (258). New Zealand followed on at 217 and then concluded the match at 367/6. Again, the Kiwi bowler, R C Motz took 5 wickets, this time however, conceding 113 runs.

1971-72 Series: This was the only Rubber between the two teams to be held in the Caribbean. New Zealand holds an enviable record in this respect as the rubber ended 0-0 (all five drawn) and are thus the only Test-playing nation whom Windies have not been able to defeat on home soil. In the first Test at Sabina Park, Jamaica, Windies amassed 508/4 dec and 218/3 dec. New Zealand in response scored 386 and 236/6. The Test was significant in the sense that Lawrence Rowe, the opening bat from Barbados, made his debut and scored 214 and 100 n.o., the highest runs in Test history by any one on debut. Glen Turner scored 223 in the first and M

G Burgess 101 in the second Kiwi innings, while for Windies Roy Fredericks scored 163 in the first innings. In the second Test at the Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad, the Kiwis scored 348 and 288/3 dec while the Windies 341 and 121/5. For New Zealand, B E Congdon scored 166 n.o. in the first innings, while his compatriot, B R Taylor, took 4/41 and 3/26. In the third Test at Kensington Oval, Barbados, Windies were bundled out for 133 in the first innings and then managed to score 564/8 in the next one. The Kiwis scored 422. Both Charlie Davis (183) and Sir Geoffrey Sobers (142) scored



COURTNEY WALSH

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tons in the second Windies innings. For the Kiwis, Congdon again hit a ton (126) with his compatriot B F Hastings (105). In the fourth Test at Bourda, Guyana, Windies scored 365/7 dec and 86 for no loss. The Kiwi tally was 543/3 dec. The gifted Guyanese left hander, Alvin Kallicharran, scored 100 n.o., while for the Kiwis, it was Turner with 259 and T W Jarvis with 182. In the fifth Test at Trinidad, Windies scored 368 and 194, while the Kiwis 162 and 253/7. Again Kallicharran scored a ton (101), in the first Caribbean innings. For the Kiwis, B R Taylor took 3/74 and 5/41, while the Trinidadian spinner, Inshan Ali took 5/59 and 2/99 for Windies.

1979-80 Series: This three-match rubber was the first and last the Kiwis have won against Windies (1-0, 2 drawn) and also the last Windies have lost to any nation since then. The one man who made the difference was the great Sir Richard Hadlee. New Zealand won the first Test at Carisbrook, Dunedin by a whisker. Windies were bundled out for only 140 and 212 thanks to Sir Hadlee's 5/34 and 6/68. Desmond Haynes, the last survivor of that series today, offered exemplary resistance topscoring with 55 and 105. New Zealand scored 249 in their first innings. Needing only 103 to win in the fourth innings, Windies lifted the game to send the



KEN RUTHERFORD

the last rubber among the two teams highlighted the excellence of some quality players. For the Kiwis, we have seen gifted players in Sir Hadlee and Martin Crowe, and diligent players in Ken Rutherford and Ian Smith. For Windies, we have seen the rise of two charismatic players in the present skipper, Courtney Andrew Walsh and Richie Richardson. This article was written just after the first one day, which Windies won on a better run average. At present, New Zealand are handicapped by the suspension of three key players. Matthew Hari, Stephen Flemming and Dion Nash. Moreover, the Windies have not managed to win a rubber against the Kiwis in 39 years, since the 1955-56 series. Besides this statistical drought West Windies will not lack in enthusiasm because youngsters like Adams, Williams, Chandrapaul and Cafy will be eager to cement their positions in the current team. So let's wait and see how the forthcoming rubber turns out to be "Cricket, lovely cricket" is gloriously uncertain, isn't it?

and Sir Hadlee 103. In the third Test at the Eden Park, Auckland, Windies scored 220 and 264/9 dec, while the Kiwis managed 305 and 73/4. Bruce Edgar hit 127 for the Kiwis in the first innings, while "Big Bird" Joel Garner took 6/56 and 1/17 for Windies.

1986-87 Series: This was last time the two teams met in a rubber. It resulted in a 1-1 (1 drawn) draw. The first Test at the Basin Reserve, Wellington, ended in a draw. New Zealand scored 228 and 386/5 dec, while Windies 345 and 50/2. John Wright, scored 138 and Martin Crowe 119, for the Kiwis in the second innings, while Des Haynes scored 121 in the first innings for the Caribbeans. Joel Garner took 5/51 and 2/72 for Windies. Windies won the second Test at the Eden Park, Auckland by 10 wickets. The scores were Windies 418/9 dec and 16 for no loss and the Kiwis 157 and 273. Greenidge scored 213 for Windies, while Crowe 104 in the second Kiwi innings. Sir Hadlee took five expensive wickets for 105 runs, while for Windies, Marshall took 4/43 and 2/71 and the current skipper, Walsh, 1/34 and 5/73. New Zealand restored parity in the third Test at Lancaster Park, Christchurch through a five-wicket victory. Windies were bundled out for 100 and 264, thanks again to Sir Hadlee's 6/50 and 3/101. New Zealand scored 332 and 33/5, with Garner taking 4/79 and 1/3 and Walsh 1/78 and 3/16 for Windies.

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Can politics be kept out of sport?

By Derek Ingram

Is sport today a national unifier or a divider? A tool to used or misused in international diplomacy? A victim or a beneficiary of the market economy? Gemini News Service reports on a new book that outlines the complex forces at work today behind global sport.

"KEEP politics out of sport," was the futile cry which used to go up from those who opposed the cutting of sporting links with apartheid South Africa.

The sentiment was as futile as another much older cry: "Keep politics out of religion." The truth is, international sport has often been part of the diplomatic fabric. German dictator Adolf Hitler used it to glorify fascism at the 1936 Olympic Games; communist East Germany used it to acquire legitimacy as a sovereign state; Canada rejected Taiwan's Olympic team for the 1976 Games because it did not represent the real China.

The United States, the Soviet Union and Cuba put huge investment into athletics to get to the top of the gold medal podium.

On another level, sport was the launching pad for diplomatic initiatives, such as the "ping-pong diplomacy" used to open a dialogue between the US and communist China in 1971, when a table-tennis team was sent to Beijing by President Richard Nixon.

A new book, *Sport and International Politics*, by Barrie Houlihan of Britain's Staffordshire University, says that in the wake of the Soviet collapse, for many states attempting to gain international recognition, the journey towards a seat at the United Nations begins with an application for membership of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or one of the main international sports federations.

Houlihan's book covers many aspects of the global sporting scene and chronicles the huge changes wrought by commercialisation and especially by the dependence on TV and business sponsorship. Some of the figures are startling. For the 1990-1991 England cricket tour of Australia only 30 per cent of the total net income was from gate receipts, the rest coming from business. In 1992, the Wimbledon tennis championships raised 70 per cent of their revenues through TV fees compared to a less than 20 per



'International sport has often been part of the diplomatic fibre'

cent in the early 1970s.

Most of the income of the IOC comes from its seven per cent share of the TV rights for the Games. In 1992 the BBC showed 1,600 hours of sport — nearly 20 per cent of its entire programme output. And sports sponsorship in Britain grew from £2.5 million in 1971 to £240 million in 1991.

As a result, he points out, money has become a deciding factor in the way international sport is staged.

"As sport has become a source of profit in its own right, through the sports goods business or through the marketing of TV rights, corporate interests have become more aware of the need to protect that source of profit... so they will also attempt to influence major organisers such as the IOC over the location of Games and the selection of sports."

Business is increasingly in-

fluencing the rules of many sports to make them more marketable — for example, the introduction of the tie-break in tennis and changes to the scoring system in squash.

There was discussion within the International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA) about how to adjust the rules for the 1994 World Cup to make the game more palatable to a US television audience and therefore to advertisers.

The choice of an American venue again, Atlanta, for the 1996 Olympics and then Sydney in 2000 keeps the Games in the rich world. South Africa will bid for the 2004 Games, but will find itself pitted against China.

"Mecantim," the Commonwealth Games moves in 1996 to Malaysia — only the second of the 16 Games held since 1930 to be staged in a developing country. The first was

in Jamaica in 1966. Malaysia is planning a bigger Commonwealth Games than ever — part of government policy to build the country into a sporting as well as an economic tiger in Southeast Asia. As a multi-ethnic country it sees sport as a unifier and nation-builder. South Africa does the same.

This view is not universal. Houlihan's book raises questions about resentment towards the global spread of Western sport and the Western concept of competition.

Critics say that in West Africa soccer has been associated with inter-ethnic violence. Caribbeans are divided on the issue. One commentator wrote: "Cricketer is a game we love, for it is the only game we can play well, the only activity which gives us some international prestige. But it is the game, deep down, which we must hate — the game of the master."

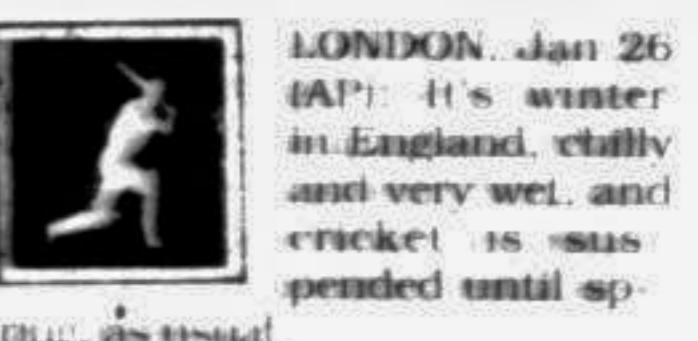
The much loved and respected Caribbean writer C L R James argued otherwise. The game, he said, provided a focus for West Indian identity. In Australia sport has been a key force in the emergence of a national identity. Beating England at cricket was an important means of asserting Australian equality and vitality.

Houlihan also points out that in Canada in the early 1970s then Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau saw sport as a partial means of overcoming problems arising from strong provinces, dispersed populations and English-French cultural divisions. The government invested in the sports Canada programme. Result: the Canadian share of Olympic and Commonwealth medals steadily rose.

— Gemini News

*Published by Harvester Wheatsheaf, UK price £13.95.
About the Author: Derek Ingram was the founder of Gemini News Service and its now consultant editor. He is author of several books on the Commonwealth and was president of the Commonwealth Journalists Association from 1983 to 1990. In 1978 he received the Commonwealth Press Union annual award.

For 'em winter never comes



LONDON, Jan 26 (AP) — It's winter in England, chilly and very wet, and cricket is suspended until spring.

But Thursday brings a cheerful reminder of days in the sun and it will be thermos flasks and sandwiches as usual. Enthusiasts for the summer game, especially those with cash to spare, will troop to London's bond bazaar for a sale of cricket memorabilia collected by Hal Cohen, a dentist.

"We have had cricket sales before and we enjoy seeing the buyers in front of the rostrum, unwrapping their flasks and unwrapping their sandwiches," said Richard Madley, a director of Phillips auctioneers.

There are 623 lots of paintings, books, memorial plates, dishes and jugs, cigarette cards, postcards, medals and porcelain figures in the sale. They recall famous names like Alfred Mynn — born 1807 and known as Alfred the Great and also Lion of Kent — and other legendary figures: George Gunn, Gilbert Jessop, Victor Trumper, George Hirst, Wilfred Rhodes, Percy Fender, Jack Hobbs, Harold Larwood, Don Bradman and many, many more.

Not forgetting K S Ranjitsinghi, Maharajah Jan Sahib of Nawanganar, whose elegant style, Indian origin and delightful title captured the nation's imagination 100 years ago. There are four copies of his 1897 "Jubilee Book of Cricket" in the sale.

Americans who play baseball in summer are represented too. Among the books is the "American Cricket Annual 1890," price 50 cents. But most of the cricketers in it were expatriates.

Important from a single owner to reach the block for more than 30 years.

Cohen lived in a modest three-bedroom house next to the rugby ground in the Birmingham suburb of Moseley. "His diningroom had cricket books from floor to ceiling and about 20 cricket paintings on one wall," said Madley.

"There was cricket almost everywhere but Eva his wife insisted on a cricket-free zone in the drawing-room," the director said.

Tomba leads Italy toward light

MILAN, Jan 26 (AP) — He kisses the snow. He kisses his fiancée. He even kisses his dog, Alberto Tomba's colourful post-race celebrations are an inspiration to Italians who are feeling the blues.

Especially as they happen after race after race.

Sociologists suggest that Tomba's eight-race winning streak is helping Italians to survive the strains of a long political crisis, the fall of the lira and growing unemployment.

Tomba's latest triumph in a slalom at Kitzbuehel, Austria, drew a television audience of 7.8 million, a record for a World Cup race in Italy.

The skier called "La Bomba" (the bomb) because of his power-packed charges between slalom gates doesn't like sociological interpretations. He says pleasing Italian fans and winning races are part of his job.

proved slalom style were behind the new explosion of La Bomba, who has slimmed down to 91 kilograms (200 pounds) from a peak of 99 (212) a few years ago.

Some claimed that Tomba's winning secret was his restored relation with his fiancée, former Miss Italy Martina Colombari.

Martina, a 19-year-old model, is again on hand to kiss Alberto at the finish line. So, incidentally, is his white Siberian husky, Yukon.

"He's a great champion, and looks unbeatable this year," Colombari said in an interview with the magazine *Fanorama*. "Away from the ski slopes, Alberto is a very normal person. We are a very normal couple."

Friends say Tomba likes to watch television and movies and visit friends in Bioglia. He has also developed a passion as a wine collector and has picked up 2,400 rare bottles in the cellar of the family villa.

Tomba was known as the man who called himself the messiah of skiing, who loved discos, who stuffed himself with home-made pasta, who chased women and joked that two girls are not enough for me.

But Tomba has matured, become more professional and has a quiet way of life, according to his friends.

He still loves driving fast in his Ferrari Testarossa, Lancia and Alfa Romeo cars. But he has become more cautious after a collision with traffic police in 1993.

As Italian dailies are running short of superlatives for their front-page headlines about Tomba's triumphs, former Olympic champion Toni Sailer stunned up Alberto's qualities by saying, "He's the greatest not only because of his victories but for the charm he exerts on fans."

Athletes like Alberto are a torture for (Alpine) skiing.

Tomba is certainly making his own fortune as well. He's said to pocket about \$1.6 million a year from commercial sponsors and publicity.

In addition, he has been earning 25 million lire (4.5 million dollars) for each World Cup victory plus bonuses from his sponsors — food group Barilla, auto giant Fiat, Pila sportswear and Rossignol skis.

Most of Tomba's contracts run through 1997, when the World Championships will be held in the Italian resort of Brestrette, one of Tomba's favourite tracks.



Fred Cupples, the champion dolls his cup at the tumultuous applause after claiming the Dubai Desert Classic golf title, the first American to do so. Emirates, the international airline of the UAE, was the official carrier of the Desert Classic held at the Emirates Golf Club recently.

— Star photo