

PILCOM announces fixture



KARACHI, June 16: Pakistan on Thursday announced the itinerary for the 1996 cricket World Cup, allocating seven venues for 16 matches that will host including the final of the 12-nation tournament, reports AFP.

The World Cup, being jointly hosted by Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan, is scheduled to start on February 14, 1996 with England facing New Zealand in the Indian city of Ahmadabad.

Arif Abbasi, chief executive of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PBC) here said 16 matches would be played at seven selected venues in Pakistan while the final has already been allotted to Lahore.

India will host 17 matches including the two semifinals while four matches are scheduled in Sri Lanka, three in the capital Colombo and one in Kandy, he said.

In Pakistan, four matches will be played at Lahore while Karachi, Faisalabad and Rawalpindi will have three matches each. Two matches will be played at Peshawar and one at Gujranwala. Sheikhupura has been made an optional venue, he said.

For the first time the Pakistan-India-Sri Lanka World Cup Committee (PILCOM) has allocated the rain days in the itinerary. "In all future World Cup tournaments the host countries will make arrangements to continue this practice," Abbasi told reporters.

During the previous World Cup in 1992, the semifinal between England and South Africa created controversy when England won the rain-hit match. Pakistan defeated England to become the world champions.

This maiden arrangement of having reserve days for inclement weather has been

Ilott's double distinction



LONDON, June 16: Essex paceman Mark Ilott grabbed a hat-trick in the season's best haul of nine for 19 that sent county championship leaders Northamptonshire crashing to 46 all out at Luton on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Ilott dismissed Jeremy Snape, Indian leg-spinner Anil Kumble and Neil Malender with successive deliveries, all lbw, as 30 wickets tumbled on the first day of the four-day match.

Northants' total was their lowest since World War Two and the worst championship score since Lancashire routed Essex for 43 in 1989.

When Essex, having been bowled out for 127 in their first innings, batted again with a lead of 81, the clatter of wickets continued as Paul Taylor went close to emulating fellow left-arm paceman Ilott by taking seven for 50.

Essex crumbled for 107 and Northants, needing 189 to win, were one without loss at the close.

Despite the staggering tally of wickets, umpires Bob White and David Constant confirmed there was no question of the pitch being reported as unfit.

Ilott's career-best nine victims came in the space of 36



England batsman Robin Smith struck his second century of the season to underscore his claim to be retained in the Test side, his 136 hauling Hampshire from 16 for three to 323 for nine against Gloucestershire at Bristol.

Smith, who failed as an England opener against West

Indies in the first Test at Headingley, batted for just under four hours and hit 18 fours.

His hattrick of leg-befores was only the sixth time the feat had been achieved in first-class cricket, and the first since south African Mike Procter did it for Gloucestershire against

Yorkshire at Cheltenham in 1979.

South African Test batsman Darryl Cullinan hit his third championship hundred as Derbyshire made 376 against Somerset at Derby.

Cullinan, who scored 120 in boundaries, finished with 161 from 228 balls, only

Pakistan leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed easing Somerset's plight with five for 107.

Yorkshire captain Martyn Moxon, fit again after breaking a thumb, hammered an unbeaten 158 to put his side in a commanding position against Kent at Headingley.

Moxon hit 25 fours, having reached three figures in 210 balls and featured in an opening stand of 132 with Michael Vaughan (71) to flit Yorkshire to 346 for three.

England skipper Mike Atherton batted at number eight for Lancashire against Worcestershire due to a back injury, although he insisted it

would not affect his availability for the second Test against West Indies at Lord's next week.

Atherton was out for nought, a victim of Test teammate and left-arm spinner Richard Illingworth, who took four for 63 as Lancashire

were dismissed for 206 at Worcester.

Only three more days, his

but is going to be nicely

kicked." Gonzalez who ap-

peared first before the media,

said through an interpreter.

"I'm going to kill him, make him bleed from his

Navy h'ball

CHITTAGONG, June 16: BNS Haji Mohsin clinched the Bangladesh Navy annual handball championship beating Khulna Squadron 17-11 in the final of the four-day meet that concluded at the BNS Isha Khan ground here yesterday, reports BSS.

There's a lot of hat that goes back to 1987 in Indianapolis when I was there with the Cuban team and Riddick Bowe came in and said what he was going to do to me," said Gonzalez who de-

manded "in an effort not to disrupt the matches," Abbasi said.

A total of 12 teams will participate in the World Cup in which the fixture of quarter-finals has also been introduced for the first time, he added.

Pakistan are to play their opening match against New Zealand on February 24 at Lahore.

India and Sri Lanka have already announced their venues for World Cup

WC COMPLETE ITINERARY

Following is the complete itinerary of the cricket World Cup matches to be played in Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka.

Matches to be played in India:

England vs New Zealand February 14 (Ahmadabad)

West Indies vs Zimbabwe February 16 (Hyderabad)

Holland vs New Zealand February 17 (Baroda/Rajkot)

India vs Kenya February 18 (Cuttack)

India vs West Indies February 21 (Gwalior)

Australia vs Kenya February 23 (Visakhapatnam)

Kenya vs Zimbabwe February 25 (Patna)

Australia vs India February 27 (Bombay)

Kenya vs West Indies February 29 (Pune)

Australia vs Zimbabwe March 01 (Nagpur)

India vs Sri Lanka March 02 (New Delhi)

Australia vs West Indies March 04 (Kanpur)

India vs Zimbabwe March 06 (Kanpur)

Second quarterfinal March 09 (Bangalore)

Fourth quarterfinal March 11 (Madras)

First semifinal March 13 (Calcutta)

Second semifinal March 14 (Mohali)

Matches to be played in Pakistan:

South Africa vs United Arab Emirates February 15 (Rawalpindi)

England vs United Arab Emirates February 18 (Peshawar)

New Zealand vs South Africa February 20 (Faisalabad)

England vs Holland February 22 (Peshawar)

Pakistan vs New Zealand February 24 (Lahore)

England vs South Africa February 25 (Rawalpindi)

Pakistan vs Holland February 25 (Lahore)

New Zealand vs United Arab Emirates February 27 (Faisalabad/Sheikhupura)

Pakistan vs South Africa February 29 (Karachi)

Holland vs United Arab Emirates March 01 (Lahore)

Pakistan vs England March 03 (Karachi)

Holland vs South Africa March 05 (Rawalpindi)

Pakistan vs United Arab Emirates March 06 (Gujranwala)

First quarterfinal March 09 (Faisalabad)

Third quarterfinal March 11 (Karachi)

Final at Lahore on March 17

Matches to be played in Sri Lanka:

Sri Lanka vs Australia February 17 (Colombo)

Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe February 21 (Kandy)

Sri Lanka vs West Indies February 25 (Colombo)

Sri Lanka vs Kenya March 06 (Colombo).



Fireworks light up the sky above the Salt Lake City's county building as a 'beacon to Budapest' on Thursday prior to the International Olympic Committee's decision as to who will host 2002 Winter Games.

— AFP/UNB photo

It's party time in Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY, June 16: Salt Lakers are already partying in the expectation that Salt Lake will win its bid for the 2002 Winter Games on Friday. But that doesn't mean everyone is sold on the Olympics idea, reports AP.

"It think it would be great ... if we weren't burdened by taxes to pay for it," said Jeannine Perry, a Job Service employee who took her break Thursday on the plaza of the City-County Building, where "The Party of the century" is under way.

Perry and a half-dozen other Utahns said they love the idea of Salt Lake landing in the international spotlight, and they'd like the fun of the

McNeil eyes Wimbledon again

BIRMINGHAM, England, June 16: American Lori McNeil, who sent Steffi Graf crashing out of Wimbledon last year, insisted on Thursday: "I genuinely fell I can win the title now."

The 31-year-old from Texas, who went on to lose a tight semifinal to champion Conchita Martinez in the semifinal at Wimbledon, is ranked only 19th in the world and is unlikely to even be seeded at the all-England club championships later this month, reports AFP.

But after last year's feat of becoming the first player for 32 years to knock out a reigning Wimbledon champion in the first round, she believes firmly in her chances of another surprise success.

McNeil moved closer to completing hattrick of titles at the women's classic tournament here by moving into the quarterfinals on Thursday with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Australian Kristin Godridge.

"It'll be silence and devastation," party spokeswoman Alison Barnett said. "If we don't get the bid, the party's over at noon. No one will feel like celebrating."

Three IOC members believed to be supportive of Salt Lake City's bid Games will not be voting.

Slobodan Filipovic died at home Wednesday night while Jose D'Vallarino Veracierto of Uruguay and Prince Faisal Fahad Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia were excused.

Some 50,000 people are expected to crowd into the city-county plaza for the announcement, just after the Mormon Tabernacle Choir leaves the stage and skydivers decked in Olympic ring colours land on State Street.

The IOC announcement will be broadcast live on a big screen from Budapest.

But if Salt Lake strikes out for a fifth time since 1966, those who came to celebrate will quickly gather up their toys and go home.

"It'll be silence and devastation," party spokeswoman Alison Barnett said. "If we don't get the bid, the party's over at noon. No one will feel like celebrating."

Presented with three options for change, including one that would have exempted Sammaranch person-

ally, they voted by simple majority to scrap the age limit altogether.

But in a final ballot the

proposal failed by two votes

to win the two-thirds majority

needed to amend the Olympic charter.

It was the first time that Sammaranch, who became IOC president in 1980 and has

overseen a transformation in

its fortunes, had another term in power, reports Reuter.

IOC members meeting in

Budapest to choose the hosts

of the 2002 Winter Olympics,

were asked whether they

should amend the organisation's age limit of 75.

The festivities began

Thursday and were building

toward Friday's announcement

by the International Olympic Committee meeting in Budapest, Hungary. In its fifth bid for the Winter Olympics, Salt Lake is

matched against Quebec, Sion, Switzerland, and Ostersund, Sweden.

Three IOC members believed

to be supportive of Salt Lake City's bid Games will

not be voting.

Slobodan Filipovic died at

home Wednesday night while

Jose D'Vallarino Veracierto of

Uruguay and Prince Faisal Fahad Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia were excused.

Some 50,000 people are

expected to crowd into the

city-county plaza for the

announcem

Wimbledon live on Star TV



Star TV brings live and delayed coverage from the grass courts of Wimbledon on Prime Sports. Star TV's 24-hours sports channel, Prime Sports, recently signed a three year contract with the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club enabling live broadcast of this historical and most traditional of all Grand Slam events through 1997, says a press release.

Prime Sports' commentary team will bring tennis fans all the inside angles from Wimbledon throughout the two week event. In the booth, Brian Langley and Vijay Amritraj will join Americans Andre Agassi and Barry Tompkins to present the English language coverage.

Prime Sports will broadcast over 180 hours of Wimbledon 1995 beginning on 26 June. Live coverage of Day One begins Monday, 26 June 1995 at 7:00 pm extending through to the men's finals (delayed) on 10 July at 10:00 pm and 9 July at 10 pm.