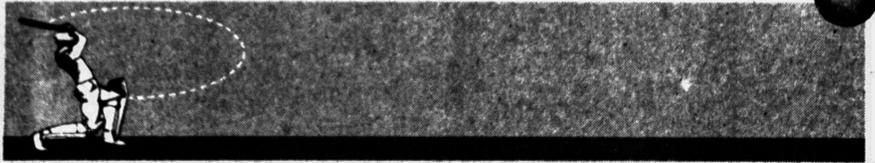


The World Cup with Philips



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Cork okay

KARACHI, Mar 6: England are hopeful paceman Dominic Cork will be fit for Saturday's World Cup quarter-final against Sri Lanka after suffering pain in his right knee on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Cork went to a Karachi hospital for a scan after leaving fielding practice at the National Stadium in obvious discomfort.

England tour manager John Barclay said the medical report was encouraging and the team were hopeful he would be fit for the match.

"Thankfully the bulletin is unremarkable," said Barclay. "The knee is sore and Dominic will rest it for the next 48 hours during which time it will be treated vigorously with physiotherapy."

"We are very hopeful he will still be available for selection come Saturday, so all in all the news in much more encouraging than it might have been."

Cork has been nursing his right knee since it began troubling him during England's week of practice in Lahore before the tournament.

He was England's leading bowler in the recent Test series against South Africa with 19 wickets and has played in all five of their Cup matches so far.

But he has done little bowling in the nets in a bid to rest the knee. Team doctor Phillip Bell has already warned that Cork is likely to need at least six weeks complete rest after the tournament to help cure the problems.

Cork had to undergo surgery on his left knee in 1994.

England have had to call for two replacements because of injury problems. Dermot Reeve replaced fellow all-rounder Craig White, while Mark Ramprakash is due to arrive this week to take over from Neil Fairbrother.

Int'l Masters' chess Zia atop alone

Top seeded Bangladeshi international Master Ziaur Rahman maintained his solo lead in the third United Insurance International Masters chess tournament securing eight points at the end of ninth round yesterday, reports UNB.

Ziaur Rahman, a player of Bangladesh Biman, beat compatriot Rezaul Haq at the chess room of the National Sports Council.

Abdullah Al Rakib of Mohammedan SC defeated Arifuzaman Sikder of Bangladesh Anwar and advanced to the second place jointly with defending champion Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi who has six and a half points from eight matches.

Lodhi, the Pakistani international master, was playing against Rahul Shetty of India. The match was heading for a draw when reports last came in.

In another crucial match, Enamul Hossain Rajib, a local chess talent, was playing against V Koshi of India.

In other round matches, Ali Amjad Mintoo beat Hasibul Hassan Hanif, Abul Kasem Bhuiyan beat V Sreen of India, Adnan Faisal outplayed Saiful Islam Masum, Tanima Perveen beat Ziaul Quader Tuhin, Arun Chandra Sarkar beat Sk Shahadat Hossain Ratna, and Ruhul Islam Bobby beat Nazrul Islam Delu.

Three players got walkovers -- Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Inon against Ruhul Kabir Shiplim, Syed Nasir Ahmed against Ruhul Kabir, and Ashrafuz-Zaman Murad against Syeda Shahabuddin Parveen Nipa.

Samaranch hails TV deal

LAUSANNE, Mar 6: International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch today welcomed the securing of a 5.5 billion dollar television deal as a guarantee for the movement's long-term future, reports AFP.

At a meeting with national committees at IOC headquarters in Lausanne, Samaranch praised last month's deal thrashed out with public service broadcasters who won despite offering less than Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, saying: "These historic and symbolic accords for the Games of 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008 are testament to our credibility and assure the perpetuity of our movement into the next century."

The contract, drawn up with NBC of the United States, the European Broadcasting Union and the Seven Network Limited for Australia, cover two Winter Games (2002 and 2006) and the Summer tournaments of 2004 and 2008 and the bulk of the resulting cash will go to the host cities.

Samaranch further welcomed the fact that a record 197 national committees had pledged to participate in Atlanta this Summer and outlined environmental protection and increased development of sport for women as the IOC's priorities for the years ahead.

Indian show sans Sachin



KANPUR, India, Mar 6: Vinod Kambli hit a maiden World Cup century today as India brushed aside Zimbabwe by 40 runs to confirm their place in the quarterfinals, reports AFP.

The stylish left-hander slammed 106 off 110 balls and Navjot Sidhu contributed 80 as India recovered from a shaky 32 for three to post 247 for five after being sent to bat in their last league match.

Zimbabwe, who needed to win in 40 overs to squeak into the quarterfinals on superior run-rate, managed only 207 in

the first innings after being dropped for the last two matches against Australia and Sri Lanka, responded to the challenge with a typically aggressive knock. Both batsmen reached their individual half centuries in the 30th over and then added 60 at run-a-ball to lift India to 174 for three by the 40th over.

Leg-spinner Paul Strang broke the stand with his 12th wicket of the tournament - the highest in the World Cup so far - by having Sidhu caught on the long-off fence by Streak.

Kambli followed soon after, lofting seamer Charlie Lock to Grandstand at long-on in a bid to step up the scoring.

Ajay Jadeja hit a quickfire unbeaten 44 off 27 balls, including two sixes and three boundaries, as India smashed 43 runs in the final five overs.

Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin said his team was looking forward to playing the Pakistanis in the quarterfinal in Bangalore on Saturday.

The defeats against Australia and Sri Lanka helped us to realign our shortcomings. We learnt from our mistakes and I think that's why we beat Zimbabwe so comfortably.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of the World Cup Group A match between India and Zimbabwe at Kanpur Wednesday.

INDIA Tendulkar b Streak 3 Sidhu c Streak b P Strang 80

Zimbabwe opener Andy Waller and Grant Flower hammered 59 by the 13th over, but the initial onslaught was stopped by the introduction of the spinners.

It was India's third win in five preliminary Group A matches, which put them in third place behind Sri Lanka and Australia and facing a possible quarterfinal against arch-rivals Pakistan in Bangalore on Saturday.

Zimbabwe opener Andy Waller and Grant Flower hammered 59 by the 13th over, but the initial onslaught was stopped by the introduction of the spinners.

India finally settled for 247 for five. Health Streak and the Strang brothers were the pick of the Zimbabwean bowlers and off them Paul still remains as the leading wicket-taker in the competition.

It was no doubt that's a very difficult task for Zimbabwe to win the match within 40 overs to ensure a quarterfinal berth. They were badly in need of some sort of innings as exhibited by Sri Lankans Jayawartha and Kaluwatharana the other day against India.

With a reasonably good start by the openers (50 in 11 overs), the rest of the Zimbabwean batsmen seemed to have no urgency. But they lacked the abilities to use their feet and go after the Indian spinners, shrewdly introduced by captain Azharuddin.

Azhar also proved his worth as captain by hitting an attacking field for his spinners to pick up the wickets of both openers.

Raju, coming back in place of Sali Ankola, quite justified his selection with three for 30 from his quota of 10 overs. Kumble, as usual, was very tidy to take two for 30 from his ten.

Jadeja, with his slow medium stuff, did a great job to take two wickets conceding 32 runs and together with his good batting performance, edged out Kambli to win the man-of-the-match award.

For India, their middle-order batsmen finally coming to terms with their forms, is a good news before their quarterfinals while for the Zimbabweans, I must say it was quite a disappointing World Cup campaign.

It was pretty difficult conditions to play under," said Martin. "Neither one of us served well, and that actually made for some better tennis."

"We had some pretty good points. I played pretty well, had a few mental lapses coming at some fairly good times."

"I moved very well and hit the ball pretty well from the backcourt after the first six or seven games," Martin said.

Man-of-the-match Ajay Jadeja, who came to bat in the late order, produced a brilliant unbeaten innings of 43 runs which came in just 27 balls, and he totally frustrated seamer Charlie Lock in the penultimate over, to fire 20 runs.

The windy conditions hampered Martin's powerful serve but the 17th ranked player used an explosive ground game to get past the unseeded 21-year-old Australian, ranked 69th.

These lapses were very very costly from the Zimbabwean point of view as they needed to restrict India somewhere

Raju had Grant Flower caught at silly-point for 30. In Kumble's next over, Sachin Tendulkar removed Waller for 22 with a brilliant diving catch at mid-wicket.

None of the other batsmen settled in against the steady Indian attack, which took wickets at regular intervals to the great delight of some 28,000 home fans.

It was an anti-climatic end to Zimbabwe's last-ditch effort, which began superbly when pace spearhead Heath Streak castled the in-form Tendulkar with an express delivery in the day's third over.

Tendulkar, who piled up 424 runs in the previous four matches, including two centuries, managed only three.

Alistair Campbell built on the early success by holding two brilliant catches at short mid-wicket to remove Sanjay Manjrekar and skipper Mohammad Azharuddin for two runs apiece.

But that was the end of Zimbabwe's resistance as Kambli and Sidhu struck form for the first time in the tournament to steer India to safety with a 142-run stand for the fourth wicket.

Kambli, who made 2.33 not out, 0 and one not out in the earlier matches, survived three dropped catches to score his second one-day century and the first in the World Cup.

Sidhu, promoted to open the innings after being dropped for the last two matches against Australia and Sri Lanka, responded to the challenge with a typically aggressive knock. Both batsmen reached their individual half centuries in the 30th over and then added 60 at run-a-ball to lift India to 174 for three by the 40th over.

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Manjrekar c Campbell b Lock 2 Azharuddin c Campbell b B Strang 2 Kambli c G Flower b Lock 106 Jadeja not out 44 Mongia not out 6 Extras: (lb-1, w-3) 4 Total: (5 wks, 50 overs) 247 Did not bat: Kumble, Srinath, Prasad, Raju Fall of wickets: 1-6: 2-25; 3-32; 4-174; 5-219

BOWLING: O M R W Streak 10 3 29 1 Lock 10 1 57 2 B Strang 5 1 22 1 P Strang 10 0 55 1 Peall 6 0 35 0 Whittall 3 0 19 0 G Flower 3 0 16 0 Campbell 3 0 13 0

ZIMBABWE Waller c Tendulkar b Kumble 2 G Flower c Azharuddin b Raju 30

Whittall run out Campbell c and b Jadeja A Flower b Raju Evans c Srinath b Jadeja Streak lbw b Raju P Strang b Srinath B Strang lbw b Srinath Peall c Raju b Kumble Lock not out Extras: (b-4, lb-11, w-11, nb-1) Total (all out, 49.4 overs) 207 Fall of wickets: 1-59; 2-59; 3-96; 4-99; 5-106; 6-168; 7-173; 8-193; 9-195.

BOWLING: O M R W Srinath 10 1 36 2 Prasad 7 0 40 2 Kumble 9.4 1 32 2 Raju 10 2 30 3 Tendulkar 6 0 23 0 Jarjeja 1 0 31 2 Result: India won by 40 runs

Man-of-the-match: Ajay Jadeja

World number one Pete Sampras makes his entrance today when he faces Tomas Carbonell of Spain.

UEFA Cup Results LONDON, Mar 6: AC Milan, attempting to become only the fourth club to win all three European Cup competitions, took a huge stride towards the next stage of the UEFA cup on Tuesday with a 2-0 quarter-final first leg win over Bordeaux, reports Reuter.

A goal from Stefano Eranio after 29 minutes and a second from Roberto Baggio 15 minutes from time, left the Italian league leaders well poised to reach the semifinals next month.

In the 41-year history of European club competition only Ajax, Juventus and Barcelona have won all three tournaments.

However, Barcelona's chances of winning this competition for the first time since 1966 - when it was still known as the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup - dimmed after they were held to a 2-2 draw at home by Dutch league leaders PSV Eindhoven in one of two ties between former European champions.

The other tie between former European champions ended in a 2-1 home win for Bayern Munich over Nottingham Forest.

Juergen Klinsmann, current England's player-of-the-year following his outstanding form last season for Tottenham, sent England's last European survivors on the way to defeat with a 16th-minute header.

Slavia Prague scored a 2-0 win over 10-man AS Roma. Defender Fabio Petruzzi was sent off in the 81st minute.

Errata J B Iverson, the Australian Test bowler, played in 5 Tests, bowled 1108 deliveries, conceded 320 runs and took 21 wickets at an average of 15.23. Best bowling: 6 for 27. The mixup in the figures yesterday is regretted. -Sports Editor

WORLD CUP QTRS PAIRINGS

ISLAMABAD, Mar 6: World Cup quarter-final line-up after the final group matches today: Saturday, March 9 Sri Lanka v England (Faisalabad, Pakistan) India v Pakistan (Bangalore, India)

Monday, March 11 South Africa v West Indies (Karachi, Pakistan) Australia v New Zealand (Madras, India)

WC STANDINGS

NEW DELHI, Mar 6 (Reuter): World Cup final group standings after Wednesday's matches, India v Zimbabwe in Kanpur, Sri Lanka v Kenya in Kandy and Pakistan v New Zealand in Lahore (tabulate under play-rates):

Table with columns: Group, P, W, L, Pts, Run-rate. Rows: Sri Lanka, Australia, India, West Indies, Zimbabwe, Kenya.

Note: Sri Lanka's record includes a total 4 pts awarded after Australia and West Indies forfeited their matches on Feb 17 and Feb 25 respectively.

Henman shocks Siemerink

ROTTERDAM, Mar 6: British qualifier Tim Henman caused an upset in the first round of the 750,000 dollars men's world indoor tennis tournament on Tuesday by beating seventh-seeded Dutchman Jan Siemerink 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (11-9), reports Reuter.

Siemerink, ranked 25th in the world, was troubled by a sore shoulder and made too many mistakes, playing sloppy passing-shots and hitting his returns too long.

The Dutchman survived three match points before succumbing to Henman, who played a solid serve-and-volley game. He faces Spain's Carlos Moya in the second round.

Third seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia had little trouble overcoming veteran Frenchman Guy Forget, beating last month's Marseille tournament winner 6-3, 7-6 (7-5).

Italy's Omar Camporese, winner here in 1991, had to qualify this year to enter the main field but made his way safely into the second round by beating American Jeff Tarango 7-6, 6-3.

In a repeat of the 1995 final, last year's winner Richard Krajicek, seeded sixth profited from his high-powered first service to beat fellow Dutchman Paul Haarhuis 6-3, 7-6 (9-7).

World number one Pete Sampras makes his entrance today when he faces Tomas Carbonell of Spain.

MATCH ANALYSIS

Take a fifth bowler!

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan



THE dangers of not playing a specialist fifth bowler in the team were once again evident in Pakistan's match against New Zealand at Lahore Wednesday.

Though Pakistan finished their group league matches with a comfortable win over New Zealand, the question of

the fifth bowler would have to be addressed with all seriousness in their future planning. Incidentally, Pakistan will play India in the quarter-final at Bangalore on Saturday, India, after a disastrous start managed to beat Zimbabwe by 40 runs at Kanpur.

Once again the aggressive Pakistan opening pair gave their side a flying start after being put to bat on a placid wicket of Gaddafi Stadium. As the experienced Danny Morrison broke down after two overs with a groin problem

New Zealand's attack was put to sword by the two Pakistani left-handers. Amir Sohail was more aggressive of the two and closed his first round campaign with a half century. His five innings totalled 217 runs at a tidy average of 43.4. Saeed Anwar was his usual self and once more scored runs at will.

But Inzamam-ul-Haq again fell victim to poor running. At this rate he would have to score his runs in boundaries. Pakistan's middle-order again performed well and they should continue to do well if they wanted to be in the final. As Danny Morrison went out of commission, New Zealand turned to part-timers and that gave Pakistan an extra edge.

Same thing happened with Pakistan also as Wasim Akram

pulled a chest muscle while batting and did not take the field. Part-timers Selim Malik and Ejaz Ahmad bowled 11 overs between them. Malik proved to be luckier than Ejaz. But it might not work against more experienced and stronger batting line-up. Unless Wasim Akram recovers in time for the next match Ataur Rehman would be a poor substitute. Saqlain Mushtaq, who bowled very well against South Africa could fill in the slot.

"You know at press conferences when the guys ask them about me they go around saying stuff like one person doesn't make a team."

"He doesn't, obviously. But they never say encouraging stuff like 'yes, he's a great player, other should learn from him.' Lara was quoted as saying."

He admitted there were problems in the team. Some of us don't even talk to some of the others. It's that bad."

Lara said Carl Hooper pulled out of the World Cup because of the atmosphere in the dressing room and not due to illness.

"It was just this team situation that made him pull out. Hooper has no malaria."

Lara went on: "I think it was really stupid of our board not to go to Sri Lanka. But it's the board that makes the decision, not us."

Lara also told the Kenyans

the West Indian management was responsible for the team's downfall, and it was a mistake to forfeit the match in Sri Lanka, the magazine reported.

"You know if you have a good team but a bad management, you can maybe get along, but if you have a bad team and a bad management you really get xxx (expletive deleted)," the magazine quoted Lara as telling the Kenyans.

"After this defeat, I think they will be forced to sport out some of this xxx (expletive deleted)."

Lara, according to the report, also believed there was moves in the West Indian board to keep him out of the team after his controversial decision not to tour Australia earlier in the season.

"I come from Trinidad and Tobago. Not many players have come from there over the years. The management doesn't like someone coming from there and making it big."

"Just me and Ian Bishop now are from there. When I

was in the team, I was the only one from there. When I

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