

### Wills creates a smoke!

AUCKLAND, Jan 10 (AFP): New Zealand health officials are investigating whether the visiting Indian cricket team is breaching anti-smoking laws by wearing the Wills tobacco logo on its bats and uniforms, the Sunday Star-Times reports. The Indian team and New Zealand Cricket could be prosecuted under the smokefree environments act 1990 — which prevents the advertising of tobacco products — if they are found in breach. W.D. and H.O. Wills Ltd is a tobacco company in India. It is also the registered name of the New Zealand company trading as British American Tobacco New Zealand. Health Ministry analyst Matthew Allen said it had written to NZ Cricket "seeking its views on the use of the logo and to reiterate the requirements of the act."

Associate health minister and anti-smoking activist Tuariki Delamere said the team was almost certainly breaching the act, but he would wait for the investigation to finish. NZ Cricket spokeswoman Michelle Lewis said NZC was writing to the ministry and would point out the logo worn by the team belonged to Wills sports and was distinct from the tobacco company logo. The sports company produced gear, including the bats and clothing used by the Indian team, and was a subsidiary of the tobacco company. Allen said the ministry was investigating the links between the two, but because of the holiday break it was difficult to get information. The act is mainly concerned about whether advertising encourages New Zealanders to smoke.

### Enqvist ends Hewitt's dream run

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 10: Thomas Enqvist of Sweden ended tennis whizkid Lleyton Hewitt's unbeaten run on his home soil to claim the teenager's Adelaide hardcourt title on Sunday, reports AP. Despite winning the first set, Hewitt turned in an uncharacteristically timid performance in the final two sets to fall to Enqvist's bomb-servise and on-line winners. Enqvist, the second seed, fought back to easily overrun the 17-year-old 4-6, 6-1, 6-2 in a dream start to the year after he was sidelined for three months last year following surgery on his right ankle. Hewitt expects he will remain in the top 100 — he went into the tournament as No 100 — after beating Jason Stoltenberg, Czechs Slava Dosedel and Jiri Novak and seventh seed German Nicolas Kiefer to earn the chance to defend his Adelaide title. Enqvist claimed his 14th title and his first since Munich last April in a victory expected to move him a place or two up from his current ranking as world No 22.

## No love lost between ACB, PCB



CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Jan 10 (AP/AF): Top cricket officials from Australia and Pakistan buried the hatchet over bribery allegations in public Sunday while private meetings shaped a united stand on the vexed issue.

Australian Cricket Board Chairman Denis Rogers and Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Khalid Mahmood held a joint news conference during a break in the International Cricket Council meeting.

On Friday, Australian stars Mark Waugh and Shane Warne repeated allegations that former Pakistan captain Salim Malik offered them bribes to play badly in matches on Australia's 1994 tour. Malik has denied the allegations.

The ICC's top priority Sunday and Monday was getting a united approach from member countries on the match-fixing and bribery issue.

Spokeswoman Michelle Lewis said "positive and significant progress" was being made Sunday and the ICC was expected to have new rules ready to implement after Monday's session.

Neither Rogers or Mahmood would comment on the substance of the ICC's closed door meeting Sunday, but wanted to make it clear that the two countries were not at war over the bribery issue.

The two men "are not bitter enemies," Rogers told reporters, but had cleared the air over "misunderstandings and misinformation" and "established a close friendship."

Because of that friendship, "neither had to apologise to each other."

Rogers said despite speculation about a deteriorating relationship between Pakistan and

Australia, "it's not happening." Mahmood endorsed the comments, adding there had been some "lack of communication over the regulation of Australian players," but this had been cleared up.

"I hope in the future there will be no misunderstandings and miscommunications."

He said the allegations of match-fixing against Pakistani players had caused substantial and extensive damage to both the players and the game. A Pakistan government inquiry, which had hearings in Melbourne Friday and Saturday, is crucial for the sport, he said.

The extent of the damage, might I say, has been unlimited to some extent and therefore we are very keen that this inquiry is brought to its logical conclusion and if any player is found guilty action is taken against him — otherwise we like to get on with the game," Mahmood said.

Mahmood hinted match-fixing may not be confined to his own country. "Match-fixing, betting is an issue we are currently investigating and this can be more widespread than perceived to be," he said.

ICC chairman Sir Clyde Walcott said draft proposals on match-fixing was being prepared.

"Then we'll take some decision," added Walcott, standing in for India's Jagmohan Dalmiya, who was unable to attend because his mother had died.

Rogers said the rows had not been helpful "but on balance it's good that it's out and we're dealing with it."

Mahmood again denied a report he had called for life bans on Warne and Waugh.

"I did not call for a life ban on any Australian player," Mahmood said. "In fact, I was shocked to see this interview of mine appearing in the press. I did not speak to anybody who claimed to be a writer or correspondent and therefore the question of calling for a ban did not arise. That was a fabrication."

The ICC canceled a news conference on the match-fixing issue for Sunday evening.

Lewis said officials would spend the evening and Monday morning further discussing the issue and would consult with Dalmiya before making any public comment.

He has already warned the ICC should come down hard on anyone proven to be involved in match-fixing. Australian and New Zealand cricket chiefs have proposed the ICC takes control over the issues.

Australian Cricket Board Chief executive Malcolm Speed said a mechanism was needed to empower the ICC to deal with the problems. "We hope there is some direction from the ICC," he said last week.

The ICC's biggest problem in attempting to root out corruption is that it possesses little genuine power — its constitution only allows recommendations not substantial action.

"That's an issue we have to address," ICC chief executive David Richards said Saturday.

Richards said the international body must be empowered to make tough decisions, but it raised queries about the jurisdiction of the ICC to act in other countries.

"We have a vital role to play in these bribery issues, but what's up for debate is if the ICC has jurisdiction in sovereign countries if there is criminality involved," Richards said.

### W Indies taste the rare

CAPE TOWN, Jan 10 (Reuters/ Internet): Brian Lara failed with the bat again but the West Indies beat a Western Province XI by 33 runs in a one-day game on Saturday, their second win in 13 matches on their South Africa tour.

Lara made four but a 101-run partnership between Shivnarine Chanderpaul (81) and Darren Ganga (40) boosted his team to 231 for six.

Leg-spinner Ravi Lewis took five for 25 as the Western Province team, comprised of reserves and six emerging non-white youngsters, were restricted to 198.

The match was played in Langa in the Cape Town suburbs and several white companies took corporate facilities on a rare visit to a township.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the one-day match between a Western Province XI and West Indies on Saturday:

#### WEST INDIES

Wallace c Croeser b Simelela 11  
Ganga c Ferreira b Henderson 40  
Chanderpaul c Tsolekile b Simelela 81  
Williams b Nkomo 31  
Hooper c Simelela b Thomas 26  
Lara b Thomas 4  
Reifer not out 15  
Jacobs not out 1  
Extras: (lb-8, w-9, nb-5) 22  
Total: For (6 wickets in 50 overs) 231  
Fall of wickets: 1-30; 2-131; 3-151; 4-209; 5-209; 6-226

Did not bat: R Lewis, N McLean, M Dillon

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Nkomo	8	0	26	1
Simelela	10	0	66	2
Lewis	7	0	42	0
Thomas	10	0	33	2
Henderson	10	0	42	1
Player	5	0	14	0

#### W PROVINCE XI

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Ferreira c Lara b Lewis	20			
Croeser c McLean b Reifer	39			
Pangarkar c Ganga b Lewis	32			
Connors c Hooper b Dillon	32			
Player c McLean b Reifer	39			
Lewis st Jacobs b Hooper	27			
Thomas b Hooper	12			
Tsolekile c Lara b Lewis	2			
Henderson not out	13			
Nkomo st Jacobs b Lewis	11			
Simelela c Lara b Lewis	0			
Extras: (lb-11, w-6, nb-1)	18			
Total: (All out in 48.4 overs)	198			
Fall wickets: 1-39; 2-51; 3-113; 4-115; 5-144; 6-171; 7-174; 8-174; 9-198				

Bowler	O	M	R	W
McLean	8	1	21	0
Dillon	10	2	30	1
Lewis	9.4	1	25	1
Hooper	10	0	48	2
Reifer	9	0	51	2
Ganga	2	0	12	0

### Hair under the microscope

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Jan 10: Australia's top umpire, Darrell Hair, was questioned by telephone by the International Cricket Council here today over allegations he brought the game into disrepute, reports AFP.

World Cup champions Sri Lanka have asked for Hair to be disciplined for reopening the controversy surrounding their star spinner Muttiah Muralitharan.

"They talked to him in a phone link-up and will take a decision on Monday," said Michael Lewis, the New Zealand Cricket press officer looking after media for the ICC.

ICC chief executive David Richards said Saturday Sri Lanka viewed Hair's autobiography, in which he described Muralitharan's action as "diabolical," as a breach of conduct.

"It hasn't happened with a current umpire before, so if it's found there was a breach of the code of conduct we will have to work through the processes," Richards said.

Players face suspensions of three Tests or six one-day matches if they bring the game into disrepute.

Hair no-balled Muralitharan seven times during the Boxing Day Test at Melbourne in 1995 and said in his book he could have called him another 27 times.

The Sri Lankan was later found not to have violated the throwing law and Sri Lanka, who delighted in beating Australia in the World Cup final later in 1995, have demanded Hair be punished.

Hair stood down for a one-day series involving Australia, Sri Lanka and England in Australia which starts today.

#### Qatar Open

### Henman to face Schuttler in final

DOHA, Jan 10: Top-seeded Tim Henman reached the final of the 1 million dollars Qatar Open Saturday, defeating popular Karim Alami of Morocco 6-4, 6-2, reports AP.

Hen will face little-known German Rainer Schuttler, who defeated seventh seed Cedric Pioline of France 3-6, 6-2, 7-5 in the other semifinal.

Henman had to weather a noisy early storm as Alami, strongly supported by most of the local fans, broke serve at the outset and applied all sorts of pressure.

But the Briton broke right back and turned the match with two superb forehands which secured another break and enabled him to take the set.

Henman broke again in Alami's second service game of the second set, thanks to two tremendous defensive lobs. Frustrated, Alami lashed the ball into the 18-meter (60-foot) high floodlight and received a code violation warning.

#### BSJA iftar

Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) arranged an iftar yesterday at the National Sports Council conference room, reports UNB.



IN DEMAND EVERYWHERE: West Indies fast bowler Curtly Ambrose obliging autograph hunters during an exhibition match against Western Province Invitational XI at the Langa Cricket Club in Langa, Cape Town on January 9. — AP/UNB photo

## Is the name of the game still cricket?

NEW DELHI, Jan 10

(Reuters/ Internet): "When I watch a cricket match these days, the question is whether it is for real or whether the outcome has already been decided," says Aditya Choudhary, a passionate Indian cricket fan.

Choudhary says the game is losing its enduring strength.

The game was rocked last month when Australians Shane Warne and Mark Waugh admitted accepting money from an Indian bookmaker in exchange for pitch and weather information during a tour of Pakistan and Sri Lanka in 1994.

The two players alleged that former Pakistan captain Salim Malik offered them bribes to fix matches during the same tour, accusations Malik denied.

Since Warne's and Waugh's admission, other players have also said they had been approached by bookmakers.

The accusations and allegations have forced the game's highest body, the International Cricket Council (ICC), to contemplate the appointment of a commission to investigate match-fixing.

The ICC is scheduled to discuss the matter at a meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand on January 11-12.

Former Indian cricketer Manoj Prabhakar — who sparked a controversy in 1997 when he claimed a teammate had offered him 2.5 million rupees (\$70,000) to sabotage a match against Pakistan in Sri Lanka in 1994 — said he had been proven right.

"What I said in the past has proved to be true. My stand has been vindicated," Prabhakar told the agency.

Prabhakar's charge in a column in the weekly Outlook magazine prompted India's cricket authorities to order an investigation.

The inquiry's report said it found no truth in Prabhakar's allegations, but many people were still not convinced.

"If international cricketers are turning around and saying they have been offered money, then it shows that there is something more than meets the eye," said Kirti Azad, another former Indian cricketer. "There is no smoke without fire."

The Times of India newspaper quoted former Pakistani captain Imran Khan as saying that match-fixing does take place.

"Match-fixing was done. How much, I've no idea. But there were some matches which were fixed..." Khan told the daily.

Pakistani cricket seems to be one of the worst affected, with inquiries being conducted against some of its brightest stars.

Cricket lovers say incidents of ball tampering, illegal betting, match-fixing — unheard of a decade ago — have today cast long shadows on the future of the game.

"Cricket spells money, and money spells cricket. So much so that the lure of lucre is the name of the game, which is increasingly influenced by the Byzantine bookies..." the Hindustan Times said in an editorial.

Azad said it was a dangerous trend, a view echoed by Prabhakar. "If a cricketer feels that in

spite of his putting his best years for the game, his future is not secure, then he may get lured by money. After all, everybody wants a security for the future," Prabhakar said.

He warned that hard times lay ahead. "See, cricket lovers will support the game and the players as long as they can. But if new scandals keep on surfacing then it will be difficult for them to do so," Prabhakar said.

"You can fool somebody once, even twice, but not more than that," he said.

Jyoti Bajpai, honorary joint secretary to the Board of Control for Cricket in India, refused to believe any Indian player could be involved, but said the developments were "disturbing."

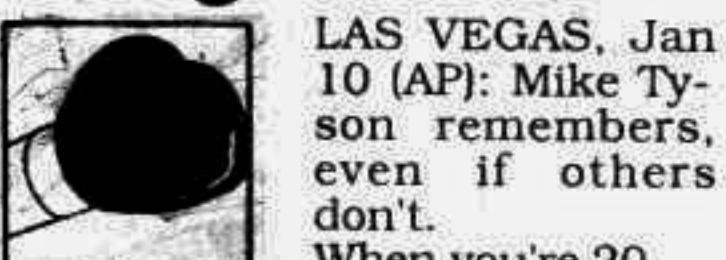
As India and Pakistan gear up for their first Test series since 1989, starting in New Delhi on January 28, many wonder whether bookmakers are just as busy preparing to make a killing.

"Come and see and you will find how mobile phones are put to use," said one Delhi and District Cricket Association official.

Experts say brakes need to be applied urgently or the game will continue its downward slide.

"Alas, gone are the days when cricket was played for the sheer joy of playing and time-honoured traditions of sports-manship ensured that a batsman walked even without the umpire raising a finger, and a bowler went across to put the balls back on when he thought he had sent in a no-ball," the Hindustan Times wrote in its editorial.

## Tyson learns the hard way



LAS VEGAS, Jan 10 (AP): Mike Tyson remembers, even if others don't.

When you're 20 and the youngest heavyweight champion ever, you don't easily forget.

It was November 22, 1986, and the World Boxing Council belt Tyson had won by knocking out Trevor Berbick only hours before was proudly displayed around his waist as he walked around the Las Vegas Hilton lobby.

He wore the belt to bed that night and paraded through the hotel with it again the next day. It took him two days before he could bring himself to take the belt off.

"I just wanted the world to say, 'Look at me,'" Tyson recalled.

Look they did, with a mixture of curiosity and awe at the new, ferocious champion with the squeaky voice.

And they've been looking ever since, through good times and bad. They've watched through multimillion-dollar fights and a prison sentence for rape, followed by a comeback and a biting that marked one of boxing's darkest hours.

Next Saturday, Tyson takes the stage once again, fighting for the first time since he chewed off a chunk of Evander Holyfield's ears on June 28, 1997.

And again, people will be there to look as if they were stopping to check out a car wreck.

They will see a destructive Tyson or a Tyson who self-destructs. In the nearly 13 years since the knocked out Berbick,

they have seen both.

Mostly, though, they will be there to see Tyson because they can't bring themselves to stop watching him.

"People think I'm either a superstar or a freak," he said. "I don't blame them. I am definitely relate to that myself."

Nearly 19 months after he was banned by Nevada boxing officials for biting Holyfield, Tyson returns to the ring at the MGM Grand hotel-casino for a scheduled 10-round fight against French Francois Botha of South Africa.

Tyson's second comeback in less than four years will earn him some 20 million dollars for a non-title fight, more than Holyfield is getting to try to unify the heavyweight titles two months later against Lennox Lewis.

The payday — which will allow the 32-year-old Tyson to settle a 13 million dollars lien against him by the American government's tax authorities — is evidence enough that he still has his magnetic draw.

"He's bigger than ever, it's just unbelievable," said Tyson's new manager, Shelly Finkel. "He does the predictable and people just want to see him. I also think a lot of people see him as being victimized."

The huge money Tyson is earning for the 10-round bout is even more remarkable considering he has lost his last two fights, both to Holyfield, and many in boxing believe he has not been the same fighter since James "Buster" Douglas beat him a decade ago in Japan.

But Tyson continues to fascinate the public, even those who normally wouldn't give boxing a second look.

"This is an individual who has surpassed his sport, for better or ill," said Jay Larkin, executive producer for the cable television channel Showtime, which will televise the fight in the United States. "He probably commands more focus and attention than any fighter in history."

Tyson's allure was evident recently at his Phoenix training camp, where a few dozen people gathered to try to get autographs and pictures as the fighter pulled into the crumbling gym in a shiny new purple Rolls Royce.

They waited outside while Tyson trained, then were allowed inside where he joked with them, signed autographs and had his picture taken with everyone who wanted one.

Freed from some of the entourage he assembled under promoter Don King, Tyson has

new management and seemingly, a new attitude. He spent time talking to teenage prisoners one day and handed out free turkeys another drawing criticism that he was just looking for publicity.

He even found some sympathy among people who thought he was treated unfairly after biting Holyfield.

"Ordinary people in the street relate to me biting that guy," Tyson said. "He said, 'You were in a fight, man. You had to do what you had to do. People in boxing don't relate to that. They look at it a whole lot different.'"

Boxing authorities in the state of Nevada, which includes Las Vegas. Looked at it so differently that they made Tyson go through five days of psychiatric exams in a Boston hospital before finally voting in October to allow him to return to the sport.

Doctors testified that Tyson suffers from low self esteem and was often depressed. But that he was unlikely to snap again in the ring.

Those close to Tyson said he felt humiliated by the tests — and one doctor said he was briefly threatened by the former champ.

But Tyson said being allowed to fight again made it all worthwhile.

"How could I really be embarrassed going through that stuff?" he said. "I should be happy because I did. Imagine if I didn't go through it. Where would I be now? I wouldn't be fighting, that's for sure."

That Tyson is fighting again is remarkable enough considering the outcry after the Holyfield fight. He wasn't allowed to reapply for a licence for a year after it was revoked in July 1997, and Tyson went through

one hearing before authorities in New Jersey in an attempt to get permission to fight in Atlantic City and two more in Las Vegas before getting his licence back.

He still faces a possible jail sentence stemming from a traffic accident near Washington involving his wife. He pleaded no contest to assaulting two men and will be sentenced February 5. Indiana authorities could send him back to jail if they decide he violated parole from his 1992 rape conviction.

But, after more than a year and a half without doing the thing he loves best, Tyson at least has his occupation back.

"The things that bother me aren't fighting, but my personal life," Tyson said. "Fighting is natural to me. It's the other things in life I have problems with. Every day, I'm always trying to walk that fine line."

The heavyweight title that seemed to come so easily at 20 is the ultimate goal for a fighter who a dozen years later finds time is not on his side.

"Everybody knows I want the championship back," Tyson said. "But I need to do it one fight at a time."

### Martinez sails Zvereva fails

SYDNEY, Jan 10: Spain's Conchita Martinez scored an easy straight-sets victory over Australia's Rachel McQuillan in their first-round match at the Sydney International tournament Sunday, reports AP.

The No. 5 seed won 6-0, 6-3 in one of just two matches on the opening day of the men's and women's Australian Open lead-in tournament.

Alicia Molik continued a big week for Australian teenagers when she upset No. 16-ranked Natasha Zvereva of Belarus 6-3, 6-4.

The 17-year-old's victory followed the impressive run by Australia's world junior champion Jelena Dokic, 15, who helped the country win the Hopman Cup team competition.

Molik set up a second-round clash against Swiss world No. 2 Martina Hingis.

"I've got nothing to lose, I'm the dark horse — she's probably the one with every worry in the world," Molik said. "I've watched her dominate for so long and it'll be good to see how my game stands up to hers — I'll go out there and play the same way I did today. I think it'll be a good contest."

### Dechy advances

HOBART, Australia, Jan 10: Nathalie Dechy of France beat sixth-seeded South African Mariaan De Swardt 7-5, 6-4 Sunday on the opening day of the Tasmanian International women's tennis tournament, reports AP.

Seventh-seeded Ruxandra Dragomir overcame a second-set slump to beat Czech Kveta Hrdlickova 6-3, 6-3.

The biggest turnaround Sunday came from Italy's Rita Grande. After dropping the first set 6-1 to Florencia Labat of Argentina, the Italian got her serves and volleys working and won the next two sets 6-2, 6-4.

None of the leading seeds, including top-seeded Julie Halard-Decugis of France, played Sunday.



MIKE TYSON