

Sport

Malik, Ijaz ignored

KARACHI: Veteran batsmen Ijaz Ahmed and Salim Malik have been ignored by the Pakistan selectors for the forthcoming tour to Sharjah and Australia.

The selection committee on Tuesday called up 22 players for the week-long conditioning camp starting in Lahore from October 1 in preparation for the two tours and Malik and Ijaz, who have scored over 8,000 Test runs between them, are not among the invitees.

Also missing from the list of probables are Shoaib Akhtar and Saqlain Mushtaq, who are currently in England getting treatment for shoulder and knee problem, respectively.

Malik and Ijaz along with captain Wasim Akram had been suspended in allegation of match-fixing by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) ad hoc committee two months back.

But the ad hoc committee hurriedly lifted the ban on them and reinstated Wasim as captain for just-concluded Toronto series against West Indies. It subsequently declared both Malik and Ijaz were available for selection. Although they are representing Habib Bank Limited in the ongoing Tissot Cup, the selectors appear to have made up their minds that these two don't have a future with the Pakistan team anymore.

The final squad will be named on October 7.

PRELIMINARY SQUAD

Wasim Akram, Moin Khan, Asim Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Wajahatullah Wasti, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Yousaf Youhana, Hasan Raza, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Salim Elahi, Shabbir Ahmed, Arshad Khan, Azhar Mahmood, Abdul Razzaq, Rasheed Latif, Muhammad Wasim, Akhtar Sarfraz, Muhammad Akram, Shahid Nazir, Shahid Afridi and Naved Qureshi.

Cairns vows to be more attacking

MUMBAI, Sept 29: Exciting New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns yesterday sounded a veiled warning to the Indian team when he said he intended to be much more aggressive on this tour as compared to the Kiwis' earlier visit in 1995, reports PTI.

"The last time when we were here for a Test series I thought I was a bit defensive. But this time I will be more aggressive while at the same time careful too. It is a very thin line dividing the two," Cairns told reporters after the Kiwis' first net session on Indian soil.

Cairns, one of the key members of the current team led by Stephen Fleming and a match-winner on his own, said that he now knew what to expect and how to overcome these.

"I know for instance it would be extremely hot to bowl and I have to drink lot of water (to compensate for dehydration). The wickets would be conducive to spin. It is a very challenging tour," the all-rounder, who has recently undergone a knee surgery for tendonitis, said.

"We want to do well here and win the series. We know the Indians have some very good players. I look forward to the battle with (Indian skipper) Sachin Tendulkar who is a fantastic player. I have had him sometimes and at others he has made runs," the star Kiwi all-rounder said.

Cronje not quitting

NAIROBI, Sept 29 (Internet report): South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje on Tuesday denied claims that he is quitting his job.

Cronje said he has a contract until April and hasn't decided on his plans after that.

Speculation about Cronje's retirement has intensified since South Africa were eliminated in the semifinals of the World Cup. South Africa had been the favourites but after a thrilling drawn semifinal against the Australians, the team was eliminated due to a slower run-rate throughout the tournament.

In the heat of the loss, the 30-year-old Cronje said he might consider retirement, and recent reports have linked him to a coaching job at English county team Glamorgan.

Asked on Tuesday about reports that he was quitting, Cronje said the reports were "not true."

India beat

From page 13

Bowler	O	M	R	W
M. Sujil	8	1	25	1
T. Odoyo	10	0	35	1
T. Sujil	7	1	24	0
J. Ababu	4	1	15	0
S. Tikolo	10	0	49	1
M. Sheikh	3	0	17	0
Odumbe	8	1	51	3

KENYA

K. Otiemo c M. Prasad b V. Prasad	0
R. Shah c Joshi b Mohanty	26
S. Tikolo c Choppa b Mohanty	8
M. Odumbe c M. Prasad b V. Prasad	5
A. Vadhur c b Bharadwaj	18
H. Modi st M. Prasad b Choppa	10
T. Odoyo c V. Prasad b Bharadwaj	33
T. Sujil st M. Prasad b Bharadwaj	27
M. Sheikh c M. Prasad b V. Prasad	1
M. Sujil not out	1
J. Ababu b Choppa	11
Extras: (w-5, lb-7)	12
Total: (All out in 50 overs)	162

Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-11; 3-21; 4-42; 5-66; 6-71; 7-133; 8-138; 9-140

Bowler	O	M	R	W
V. Prasad	9	2	26	3
Mohanty	8	2	25	2
Joshi	10	3	24	0
Choppa	10	2	18	2
Bharadwaj	7	0	38	3
Singh	6	1	24	0

Result: India won by 58



Chelsea's Romanian international Dan Petrescu sending a rebounder towards the net to score his side's only goal against Galatasaray during a Champions' League match on September 28. — AFP photo

Cruyff blasts Eindhoven



EINDHOVEN, Sept 29: Dutch football legend Johan Cruyff has launched a scathing attack on PSV Eindhoven after their defeat by Scottish side Rangers in the Champions League on Tuesday, reports AFP.

"PSV are not good enough to play at this level because they don't know how to play total football," said Cruyff after a 84th minute goal by Jorg Albertz gave Rangers a 1-0 victory.

Rangers deserved to win, no question of that in my mind.

"Luc Nilis is the only player in the squad who seems capable of playing at a high level.

Rangers showed greater maturity on the night and worked hard for their victory."

It was a huge win for the Ibrox club and with Bayern Munich and Valencia drawing 1-1 the three of them look to be fighting for the two qualifying places from Group F.

And Rangers now know that if they beat PSV, lodged at the foot of the group with one point, in the return leg at Ibrox in a fortnight they are guaranteed a UEFA Cup spot at least.

Albertz, who started the

game on the bench, said: "We have given ourselves a chance with this victory as we now have two home games to come. With our fans we don't fear anyone."

"It was a great feeling to score as my parents and brother were in the stand."

Advocaat sprung a pre-match surprise by naming Albertz on the bench after his two goals against St Johnstone at the weekend.

Albertz, however, took his chance when he replaced Claudio Reyna after 24 minutes, and could feel well satisfied with his night's work. Advocaat quipped: "Perhaps that's the best way to play him."

American midfielder Reyna pulled up with a hamstring injury that could sideline him for five to six weeks.

Albertz was impressive in the middle of the park and made the breakthrough with six minutes to go with an unstoppable volley after some tireless work by Michael Mols.

That goal made it a winning return to PSV for Rangers manager Dick Advocaat.

Not only that, the last time the Ibrox club won an away game at this level was in

December 1992 when they defeated CSKA Moscow in their adopted German home of Bochum.

But Advocaat was more interested in praising his team than trying to seek personal glory for the performance.

"It was a very exciting game and I thought we had a chance by fielding three strikers," he said.

"In the second half we handled the physical side of things a lot better than PSV and created chances."

"I am very satisfied and I still think it is an open group with Bayern Munich and Valencia drawing."

PSV coach Erik Gerets admitted that Rangers had overhauled his side in midfield, although he claimed the goal was "lucky".

"We couldn't get the ball up to our strikers from midfield," he said. "That was our main problem."

"But I thought we still deserved to take at least a point. The goal Rangers scored was a lucky goal."

In the other match in that

LEEDS, Sept 29: That mighty match-winning header may do more than bring glory to the footballer who rammed it into the net -- it may also help inflict brain damage, according to Thursday's UEFA Cup first round second leg clash with Yugoslav side Partizan Belgrade, reports AFP.

The 30-year-old, who scored only his second goal in six seasons at Leeds in the first leg 3-1 win, has been struggling with a knee injury sustained in Saturday's 3-2 home win over Newcastle, which led to him undergoing a scan on Monday.

Radebe, who has been inspirational this season as he has guided a team made up of seven players of 22 and under into second place in the Premiership, still had a light training session on Tuesday before receiving treatment.

Things are shaping up well. I had a scan yesterday and it all looks good," Radebe said.

"I went jogging this morning and it didn't feel that bad and so there's a possibility I could play. I certainly hope so," he added.

If Radebe is out then Leeds manager David O'Leary, who blasted UEFA earlier in the week saying that the competition was a farce because they were allowing the third-placed teams from the Champions League to enter the competition, admits he will not risk untried New Zealand international Danny Hay against the Yugoslavs.

O'Leary has said that Hay, a 200,000 pound buy from Perth Glory earlier this season is "one for the future".

"With the way things stood at one point, it could have been worse. But we should have kept the ball on the ground and gone for short, quick passes and one-twos, and not have kept hitting in high balls for Bierhoff."

"Milan just weren't into it. At times, they seemed impotent," said the media mogul. "We have to reflect on this match and find a better solution to the problem."

Club president Silvio Berlusconi, like Milan coach Alberto Zaccheroni, was also disappointed by the outcome.

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"It's been a bit more complicated and I'd feel a lot better if we'd have won... I have to confess, I thought we'd get more than this."

And he summed up: "Qualifying has now become a bit more complicated and I'd feel a lot better if we'd have won... I have to confess, I thought we'd get more than this."

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Radebe hoping for the best

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Real romp home