

Eng-Pak Tests
Indoor drinks
in Ramadan

KARACHI, Aug 31: Pakistani and English players will have to take drinks breaks in their dressing rooms during two Test matches on England's forthcoming cricket tour because they fall during Ramadan, an official said Thursday, reports AFP.

"Due to the sanctity of the holy month of Ramadan teams will have to take off-field drinks during the second and third Tests," a Pakistani Cricket Board (PCB) official said.

Muslims all over the world fast from dawn to dusk during Ramadan. Eating or drinking in the open is prohibited.

But those Pakistani players who are not fasting will be able to eat and drink behind the closed doors of their dressing room, the official added.

"We have informed the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) well in advance as the codes will have to be followed," he said.

It will be the first time in international cricket that drinks will be taken off the field.

England are due to arrive in Pakistan on October 16 to play three Tests and three one day internationals in their first tour of Pakistan for 13 years.

England's last tour in 1987-88 was marred by the infamous confrontation between Mike Gatting and umpire Shakoor Rana.

Gatting, then captain of England, had a blazing row with Rana and a day's play was lost as the umpire sought an apology.

Gatting later apologised for his behaviour.

The PCB plans to hold all the one-dayers under floodlights. Light towers have been erected in Rawalpindi and Karachi while Lahore's Gaddafi stadium already has such facilities.

"We are taking weekly report on the progress of work and do all the best arrangements for England," PCB's Director of Operations Yawar Saeed said.

Windward WI
youth champs

GEORGETOWN, Aug 31: The Windward Islands under-19 cricket team has been crowned champions of West Indies youth cricket after battling Jamaica to a draw at the Bourda Cricket Ground here, reports AP.

It is first time that the Windwards won any tournament organised by the West Indies Cricket Board and officials were elated.

"This was a combined effort. Words simply cannot express how I feel," said Lockhart Sebastian, team manager and former Windward Islands senior player, Wednesday.

The Windwards, by virtue of winning the first innings, had done enough to clinch the series after three outright wins in the tournament, the only team to have done that in this year's competition.

The team won the tournament playing as the Combined Islands back in 1972-73, but never as the Windwards.

The Windwards' Devon Smith was the highest run scorer with 336 runs, while Guyana's Hemraj Garbaran was the runner-up with 322.

Kevin Brazil of Guyana, a slow offspin bowler, was the highest wicket-taker with 31 wickets, followed by Windward Islands leg-spinner Camillus Alexander with 28.

The tournament will be in Guyana again next year because there are more than enough grounds to play four matches simultaneously and it is less expensive, organisers said.

Wushu team goes
to Nepal today

A fourteen-member Bangladeshi wushu team leaves for Kathmandu today to participate in the first South Asian Wushu Championship, says a press release.

The championship will be held in the Nepalese capital from September 2-9.

The other countries to take in the meet are India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the hosts.

Abul Kalam Azad will lead the Bangladesh team.

TV Guide

Friday 1st September

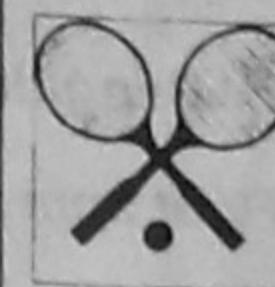
(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme outline.)

BTV

Morning Prog. 9:00 Opening Announcement, Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 9:05 Patriotic Song 9:10 Bangla News 9:15 Aalor Dishes (Islam Education For Children) 9:35 NHC Programme 10:00 The News 10:05 Crirajat / Shuvo Sakaal 10:30 Nirbachito Programme 10:55 Jatra (Local Drama) 12:25 A) Programme Outline For 2nd Session B) National Song 12:30 Closing

Evening Prog. 3:00 Opening Announcement, Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 3:15 Patriotic Song 3:20 Bangla Film: 4:00 Bangla News 4:05 Sukhi Paribar (Population Based Prog.) 6:30 Transmission From Chittagong Center 7:20 Sambad (Bangla News) 7:25 Serial On Nature- Raong Kara Putul 8:00 Bangla News At 8:20 Serial On Health- Timirachano 8:50 Drama Series: Gul Sanobar (Bangla Dub) 9:00 Ettadi

Trials & tribulations



NEW YORK, Aug 31: Defending US Open champion Andre Agassi, already slowed physically by back spasms from a July auto accident, has also been distracted with worry about his sister and mother, both diagnosed with cancer, reports AP.

By his run to the Washington final two weeks ago, Agassi's back woes were gone. But so too was the time he needed to round a second-round match.

But nagging the thoughts of the six-time Grand Slam champion are concerns about mother Elizabeth and sister Tammy, who each have breast cancer.

"It has been a difficult year in many respects with my sister having breast cancer. And my mom was diagnosed with it just a month ago," Agassi said. "It hasn't been easy, but in many ways it has gotten the family stronger and closer."

"And it has given me the perspective that sometimes only certain tragedies can bring. That I am trying to utilise in a positive way. My concentration has not been the easiest. But I think it's getting better."

Monica Seles, no stranger to off-court troubles including recovery from a stabbing and her father's cancer illness, sympathised with Agassi as he tries to deal with tennis and the deadly affliction in his family.

"I'm sure it's a very difficult time for Andre and his family, but he is an amazing person and I sure he can handle it," Seles said.

Agassi's Open preparation was slowed by back spasms from when his car was rear-ended on his way home from

the Las Vegas airport after a Wimbledon semifinal loss.

The reigning Australian Open champion dropped out of a Davis Cup semifinal tie and an ATP event in Los Angeles, then lost a first-round match at Toronto and retired in a second-round match at Cincinnati.

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