

Kenya's HK 6s

AFP, Nairobi

Kenya have named six players, including spinners Collins Obuya and Maurice Odumbe, for the two-day Hong Kong Sixes tournament next month.

Other members of the Kenya team for the November 1 and 2 event are Steve Tikolo, Ravindu Shah, Kennedy Obuya, Martin Suji and Thomas Odoyo.

Kenya, who suffered the completion of a 5-0 whitewash in the one-day series against Sri Lanka A in Nairobi at the weekend, will be up against the likes of England, who lost in last year's final to Pakistan, India, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and South Africa, as well as hosts Hong Kong.

Cricket Australia's windfall

AFP, Melbourne

A successful World Cup and Ashes series lifted Cricket Australia's profits by more than 16 million dollars (11.2 million USD) in 2002-03, CA said on Tuesday.

CA recorded a net surplus (prior to distributions to states) of 47.88 million dollars (33.5 million USD) in 2002-03, up from 29.11 million dollars (20.3 million USD) in the previous year.

Returns from the World Cup in southern Africa last February-March and healthy English broadcast rights for the Ashes series here last southern summer increased revenues by more than 16 million dollars.

But CA chief executive James Sutherland said a good proportion of the increased profits would be put away to provide for forecast losses in coming years.

Sutherland said CA will bank almost one-quarter of that profit to cover potential losses in the next couple of years to smooth annual distributions to the six state associations and player payments.

The Zimbabwe/India Test and one-day series this summer will be followed by West Indies/Pakistan in 2004-05 and South Africa/New Zealand in 2005/06.

"We are budgeting a loss for next year because our distribution under the smoothing policy will be greater than our surplus," Sutherland said in reference to lower revenues expected in non-World Cup years.

Leeds losses soar

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showcase competition in the 2001-2002 season sparked a spectacular decline.

As debts and losses increased, Leeds began a fire sale of a number of key players beginning with the departure of defender Rio Ferdinand to Manchester United in July 2002 for 30 million pounds.

His sale and the subsequent exodus of six key players in the January transfer window has yet to make an impact on the club's finances.

A poor performance on the pitch last season -- the club only just avoided relegation -- led to reduced media income.

Television and broadcast revenues fell by more than a third as income decreases according to a club's position in the league. Also the club's poor performances meant fewer live games were broadcast.

Merchandising income also fell and an excess of unsold shirts had to be disposed of through large discounts, cutting margins dramatically.

The club has also had to pay 5.7 million pounds compensation to its former managers David O'Leary and Terry Venables.



PHOTO: AFP

DIFFERENT KIND OF BAT: New Zealand all-rounder Chris Harris practices hitting a ball with one stump ahead of the TVS Cup tri-series match against Australia yesterday.

Kiwis minus Cairns

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injuries.

But their woes are nothing compared to Australia's, who have lost their entire first-choice bowling attack of Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie, Brett Lee, Shane Warne and Stuart McGill due to injuries or suspension.

Worse, Ricky Ponting's men are low on morale after suffering a 37-run defeat against India in their first match at Gwalior on Sunday.

Ponting conceded his team had lost their nerve against India, but vowed to fight back in the series in which each team plays the other three times before the November 18 final at Calcutta.

"Just looking back, it's probably because we haven't been in a tight contest like that where we were having a lot of pressure put on us," Ponting said.

"We didn't respond very well. But it generally takes a little while to be back playing somewhere near our best."

Centuries from Sachin Tendulkar and Venkatsai Laxman lifted India to 283-5, before Australia lost six wickets in 10 overs after openers Matthew Hayden and Adam Gilchrist put on 132.

Australia must win on Wednesday to stay on track in the series, a situation that left the Kiwis smiling.

"It's a good chance for Australia to feel what everyone else feels when they play against them," said New Zealand all-rounder Scott Styris.

"They're certainly there for the picking. The Australians don't hold any mystery for us. Everyone in our team has played a game in which we have beaten them."

New Zealand go into the match after a creditable display in the recent Test series against India in which they held the formidable

hosts to a 0-0 deadlock.

The absence of star bowlers cost Australia dearly in Gwalior where the new-look attack of Brad Williams, Nathan Bracken, Andy Bichel and Brad Hogg was plundered for 90 runs in the last 10 overs.

The small Nahar Singh stadium in this industrial town on the outskirts of New Delhi promises a batting feast if curator Sarkar Talwar's prediction is to be taken seriously.

"One-day cricket is about batsmen and the wicket here will give a lot of runs," said Talwar, a former first-class cricketer.

Italians on course

AFP, Quebec

Italy's Antonella Serra Zanetti bounced Czech eighth seed Klara Koukalova 6-4, 6-0 here Monday on the opening day of the 170,000-dollar WTA Challenge.

Serra Zanetti's sister Adriana was not so fortunate, losing to fellow Italian Rita Grande, the ninth seed, 7-6 (7/3), 0-6, 6-4.

Grande became a seed after Australia's Alicia Molik, the original second seed, pulled out with a left foot injury, and Swiss fifth seed Emmanuelle Gagliardi withdrew due to an illness.

Japan's Miho Saeki was ousted by Els Callens of Belgium 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 and Lubomira Kurhajcova of Slovakia beat Germany's Julia Schurrff 6-3, 6-3.

Most players here will be at next week's event in Thailand while the WTA's top-ranked players meet in Los Angeles for the Tour Championship.

Saqlain in trouble for abusing Miandad



REUTERS, Faisalabad

Pakistan off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq faces a heavy fine or ban for verbally abusing national team coach Javed Miandad.

Saqlain is due to appear before the Pakistan Cricket Board's disciplinary committee on Wednesday in Lahore to face charges.

Miandad and manager Haroon Rasheed have brought the complaint against Saqlain after he telephoned them when he was dropped from the test series against South Africa to voice his complaints about the decision.

"He came to me and apologised

for his behaviour which he says was out of sheer frustration. I have accepted his apology but now it is up to the disciplinary committee to take a decision," Miandad told Reuters.

"I have been asked to give my view by the commission and I will ask them to take a lenient view after the apology from Saqlain," he said.

Under the PCB code of conduct, if found guilty of the charges of misbehaviour Saqlain could face a fine of up to 50,000 rupees (900 dollars) or a ban of three domestic matches.

Saqlain has been selected for just one test against Bangladesh and a one-dayer against South Africa this home season.

Henman advances



AFP, Paris

Britain's Tim Henman gave himself a chance of avenging one of the most crushing and demoralising defeats of his career after moving into the second round of the 2.45-million-euro Paris Masters here on Monday.

His 6-3, 6-4 first round win over Russia's Nikolay Davydenko means he will face French seventh seed Sebastien Grosjean, the man who ended his Wimbledon dream at the quarter-final stage this year.

Now he has the opportunity of returning the favour in the Frenchman's backyard.

"It will be good to get my own back here on his home turf," said Henman who also lost on the grass at Queen's Club to Grosjean in the run-up to Wimbledon.

Ironically, he had already defeated the French player, the 2001 champion here, on clay in Hamburg in the spring.

"He has always played well here in the past. But there is more at stake for him this week than me. I have everything to gain and maybe I can take advantage of the pressure he is under."

Henman, playing in his last event of the season after an injury-ravaged campaign, had too much class for Davydenko wrapping up business in 74 minutes.

Grosjean is one of five players still harbouring hopes of making it to the Masters Cup in Houston next month but there is only one place left to be decided in the eight-man field.

Thailand's Paradorn Srichaphan also has an outside chance although David Nalbandian of Argentina and Australia's Mark Philippoussis are the men in pole position.

Paradorn's slim chances of making it improved when Robby Griepner, the Thai eighth seed's potentially tricky opening opponent, crashed out at the first hurdle here losing 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 to Slovak quali-

fier Karol Beck.

Philippoussis' dreams of making it to Texas were given a huge boost by a wrist injury to Nalbandian who had to scratch from the final in Basel on Sunday.

The tendinitis was so severe that Nalbandian underwent a scan here on Monday although he is expected to be fit for his opening match on Wednesday.

The Argentine currently has 392 points in the race for the Masters Cup - a 70-point-gap on Philippoussis coming into Paris.

In the day's other action, Hicham Arazi defeated France's Paul-Henri Mathieu 7-5, 6-4 to set up a second round clash against his Moroccan countryman Younes El-Aynaoui, the 12th seed.

France's Nicolas Mahut, who like Arazi came through qualifying, beat Finland's Jarkko Nieminen 4-6, 6-4, 7-5 and now faces top seed and world number one Juan Carlos Ferrero.

Former French Open champion Albert Costa also reached the second round with a gritty 6-7 (4/7), 6-4, 7-5 win against Argentina's Mariano Zabaleta while French teenage sensation Richard Gasquet threw away a golden chance to make the second round.

The 17-year-old wasted five match points on his way to a 1-6, 7-6 (13/11), 6-4 defeat to experienced Argentinian Gaston Gaudio.

There was better fortune for French qualifier Thierry Ascione. The world number 106 easily beat Juan Ignacio Chela of Argentina 6-0, 6-3 and next plays Wimbledon champion Roger Federer.

There was disappointment for South African veteran Wayne Ferreira who squandered a one-set lead before losing 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 to Romanian qualifier Victor Hanescu. The 32-year-old Ferreira, who saved a match point in the ninth game of the final set, eventually succumbed and misses out on what would have been a mouth-watering second round clash with second seed and US Open winner Andy Roddick.

BFF grumbles

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final phase.

In all rounds each team can field as many as four foreign players per match.

Group A: Arambagh KS, Brothers Union, Victoria Club, Dhaka Wanderers, Farashganj SC, Wari Club, Dipali Jubo Sangha, Prantik KC, Bangladesh Army and Bangladesh Police.

Group B: Badda Jagarani, Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool, Sheikh Russel KC, Rahamatganj MFS, Mohakhali Eleven, Agrani Bank SC, Sadharan Bima, Bangladesh Under-20 team, BRTC, Bangladesh Navy and Bangladesh Air Force.

Indians rule

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Tejash Bakre while Kunte won his bout against Sri Lankan VTS Svothayan.

Bangladesh IM Reefat-bin-Sattar shrugged off a disappointing start to score his first victory at the expense of his long-time rival GM Ziaur Rahman.

The day's other match between Nepal's Krishna Thapa and Pakistan's Amir Karim also ended in a draw.

Meanwhile, Indian WGM Swati Ghate lost her solo lead in the women's division when compatriot Minakshi handed her a shock defeat in the sixth round.

Both players now share top spot with another Indian Esha, all having 4.5 points.

On Tuesday, Esha beat Arati.

3 Tests better than two



REUTERS, Faisalabad

South Africa captain Graeme Smith said a three-Test series would have given his team a better chance of doing well against Pakistan.

"We are making no excuses but a three-Test series gives you more time to find your feet specially in these conditions," he said on Tuesday after South Africa drew the second Test against Pakistan to lose the series 1-0.

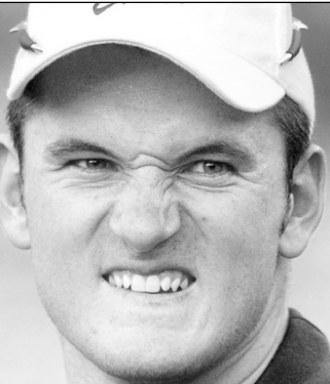
"I think a three-Test series gives you a chance to learn and we would have performed well if we had had a third match," he said.

The tour was reduced by one test after South Africa refused to play in Karachi or Peshawar because of security concerns.

"I am disappointed at the result. But there is no question about the guys' commitment in the series,

which was a very tough one for us mentally and physically. It was a new experience for us," Smith said.

"The bowlers did a magnificent job on these pitches which don't help the seamers and I think our



GRAEME SMITH

boys learnt to play spin well," he said.

Smith added that he was happy

Pakistan hold on for draw

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Pakistan won the first Test in Lahore by eight wickets.

The series win, the first for Pakistan against a major Test country for six years, also pushes Pakistan up above arch-rivals India in the International Cricket Council rankings for the first time since July last year.

South Africa however maintained its number two position behind world champions Australia.

Umar's 71 capped a successful comeback series with 313 runs in four innings after he missed the last of three Tests against Bangladesh and a one-day series against Bangladesh and South Africa due to a knee injury.

Umar, dropped on 71 by wicketkeeper Mark Boucher off Robin Peterson, did not take advantage of the lapse and played a rash shot to be caught at wide mid-wicket off Peterson after batting for 246 minutes, hitting 12 boundaries.

He added 79 runs for the third wicket with Inzamam and after the lunch interval upped the run-rate to

raise hopes of a home team win as a 12,000 crowd cheered them on.

With six half centuries and nine catches in the series Umar finish with man of the series award.

Inzamam then added another 62 for the fourth wicket with Asim Kamal as Pakistan reached tea at 155-3.

After tea, Paul Adams removed Kamal, caught by Mark Boucher for 38.

Graeme Smith took the second new ball with 20 overs left in the day and Pakistan on 210-4. Abdul Razzaq hit two boundaries off Shaun Pollock's over to raise the excitement but Ntini trapped Inzamam leg before for 60.

Inzamam hit eight boundaries during his 194-minute stay. With the first ball of the next over Pollock bowled Razzaq with a vicious in-swing to leave Pakistan at 209-6.

Number seven Malik hit Ntini for two boundaries but Kirsten's fumble with Pakistan at 219-6 cost the tourists dearly as Malik-Moin batted for 15.5 overs to force the draw.



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq displays the Pepsi Cup after clinching the two-match Test series against South Africa in Faisalabad yesterday. The hosts won the series 1-0 after drawing the second Test.

Afro-Asian hockey

India defeat Pakistan

BBC ONLINE

India came from 2-1 down to beat arch-rivals Pakistan 4-2 in the field hockey competition at the Afro-Asian Games.

Gagan Ajit Singh scored twice as India scored three times in the second half, much to the delight of the home crowd in Hyderabad.

Sporting head-to-heads between the neighbouring nations have been rare recently due to the dispute over the Kashmir region.

The win gave India top place in Pool B and a semi-final against Malaysia.

Both teams were keen to win to avoid facing Asian Games champions South Korea in the other semi-final.

Sandeep Michael opened the scoring for India only for Pakistan to equalise through Mohammed Saleem Khalid on 29 minutes.

Three minutes later, Pakistan took the lead when Shakeel Abbasi found the net.

Prabhajot Singh levelled the match at 2-2 before Singh scored twice.

Elena clinches spot at season-ender

AFP, London

Russia's Elena Dementieva has qualified for the end-of-season WTA Tour Championships, women's tour organisers said on Tuesday.

The 21-year-old has flourished this season, winning three tournaments, in Amelia Island, Ball and Shanghai and reaching four other semi-finals in Paris Indoors, Toronto, New Haven and Moscow.

Dementieva joins world number one Kim Clijsters, second-ranked Justine Henin-Hardenne, Jennifer Capriati and Amelie Mauresmo in the eight-player round robin singles field at STAPLES Center in Los Angeles.

World number three Serena Williams and number four Lindsay Davenport both qualified for the championships, but have withdrawn because of injuries.

With Dementieva's place now secure, there are six players - Anastasia Myskina, Venus Williams, Ai Sugiyama, Chanda Rubin, Nadia Petrova and Vera Zvonareva - battling for the remaining three singles spots.

All those players, except Venus, are entered in this week's Advanta Championships in Philadelphia, which is the final chance to clinch a place.

at the way his players had come back into the second Test.

"The tour was a big learning curve for us and I also learnt a lot as captain."

Smith pointed out that most of the team were playing on the sub-continent for the first time.

"Coach Eric Simons said that given that South Africa didn't have any preparation games for the one-day or test series, the guys had adjusted well to the tough conditions.

"I think we let ourselves down in not posting big totals in the first innings. But the bowlers despite some concern over the lack of penetration bowled really well.

Smith backed his team to do well against West Indies in the next series at home.

"We will be playing in home conditions and on pitches which help the seamers," he said. "The batsmen are also used to the conditions."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close on the fifth and final day of the second and final Test between Pakistan and South Africa at Iqbal Stadium on Tuesday:

SOUTH AFRICA: 278 (H. Gibbs 98, G. Kirsten 54; Shabbir 4-74)

PAKISTAN: First innings 348 (Imran Farhat 128, Taufeeq Umar 68; S. Pollock 6-78)

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings 371-9 dec (G. Kirsten 118, G. Smith 65; Abdul Razzaq 3-70)

PAKISTAN: Second innings (over-night 8-0)

Umar c Smith b Peterson 71

Farhat lbw b Kallis 8

Hameed c Dippenaar b Ntini 17

Inzamam lbw b Ntini 60

Kamal c Boucher b Adams 38

Razzaq b Pollock 10

Malik not out 23

Moin Khan not out 9

Extras: (b-1, lb-1, nb-4) 6

Total: (For six wkts in 98 overs) 242

Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-46, 3-125, 4-187, 5-209, 6-209

To bat: Mushtaq Ahmed, Shabbir Ahmed, Danish Kaneria

Bowler O M R W

Pollock 22 12 27 1

Ntini 20 7 45 2

Kallis 19 6 51 1

Adams 20 2 75 0

Peterson 15 6 21 1

Smith 2 0 21 0

Result: Drawn, Pakistan took the two-match series 1-0.

Man-of-the-match: Taufeeq Umar and G Kirsten.

Man-of-the-series: Taufeeq Umar.

Toss: South Africa

Umpires: Daryl Harper (AUS) and Simon Taufel (AUS)

TV Umpire: Asad Rauf (PAK)

Match referee: Clive Lloyd (WIs)

England, Turkey

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as well as the limited number of other cases, we are looking at some sort of fine," UEFA spokesman Mike Lee said.

"There was not sufficient evidence of violent conduct by individual players."

England qualified for next year's finals as winners of Group 7 with Turkey consigned to a play-off against Latvia next month.

Kluivert warned

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missed reports that he will move to England when the January transfer window opens, rumours have persisted about his future.

But his compatriot van Bronckhorst believes Kluivert can reverse his poor form for Barcelona and win back the support of the Catalan club's fans.

"All he needs is for his confidence to come back and he will score goals at the highest level," added van Bronckhorst.

"Everyone at Barcelona is trying to help Patrick because he is a great player."

"He's going through a rough patch and that has meant that top clubs like Arsenal will show an interest in him."

"But I hope he stays where he is and plays his way back into form - sorry Arsenal."

Best of Gunners

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"There will be other results going our way and not going our way throughout the season so we've just got to keep our own unbeaten run going and pick up our wins where we can," he added.

Bartlett retires

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who is presently out of action with an ankle injury, would have missed at least three premier league games.

"I didn't want a repeat of what happened last year," he said.

"The only option for me was to retire so they couldn't call me up."

"But I owe South Africa a lot. It has really been my performances for my country that have put me on the international stage and I'm very grateful for that."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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