

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 Sujji 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

FROM PAGE 16

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

As debts and losses increased, Leeds began a firesale 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 practises hitting a ball with one stump ahead of the TVS Cup tri-series match against Australia yesterday.

Kiwis minus Cairns

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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 MacGill 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 Venkatesh Lakman 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 Nahan 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 Schruff 6-3, 6-3.

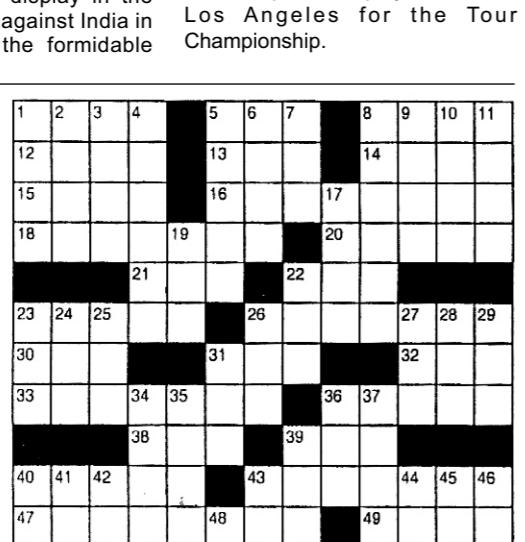
Most players here will be at next week's event in Thailand while the WTA's top-ranked players meet in Los Angeles for the Tour Championship.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals P

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe are given to clue you to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Pen-tometer 40 Street feature 2 Apiece 3 Micro-phone 43 Take a dare 5 Sandy's 47 "In my opinion, ..." 8 Bucks 12 Chantilly, for one 49 Tablet or tea-spoonful, movie 13 Actor Ferrigno 50 Mimics 15 Liniment 51 8-Down's greeting 52 Radius" 53 "— Breckin-ridge" 54 Sloop phenom 55 Collections 22 Practice pugilism 23 Pretend 26 Tagger's words 30 Took off 31 See 39- Across 32 Physique 33 Muddled 36 Pictorial poser 37 N.J. fort 39 With 31- Across, popular cuisine



CRYPTOQUIP

F G V G K U V S U A U G Q X H T

M Q N N F I I I Q H V I V S V A T -

S F I I I F H I I I T Q I , S Q X K T F R

S F I I I N U L R F H L M Q S ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A CARPENTER HAS A SWEET TOOTH, I WOULD THINK HE'D LIKE TO EAT POUND CAKE.

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14
D B A K A W E D N E S D A Y
W E D N E S D A Y
O C T O B E R 2 9, 2 0 0 3

Saqlain in trouble for abusing Miandad

Cricket

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.

"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,

3 Tests better than two

Cricket

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

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."

Smith added that he was happy

boys learnt to play spin well," he said.

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Pakistan hold on for draw

raise hopes of a home team win as a

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 main-

tained 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 of

Robin Peterson, did not take advantage

of the lapse and played a rash

shot to be caught at wide mid-wicket

of Peterson after batting for 246

minutes, hitting 12 boundaries.

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

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