

Arthur relies on youth

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

Coach Mickey Arthur said Saturday he hoped an injection of young blood into South African cricket would help the team gain new heights and improve the country's ranking in the game.

Arthur said South Africa, fifth in Test ranking out of the 11 Test playing nations and who failed to reach the semi-final of the inaugural Twenty20 World Cup this month, were in a transition phase.

"It's a sort of a rebuilding process and we need to see that our younger players are good enough, and for that we are working on a squad that can take South Africa to greater heights," Arthur told reporters.

"It is a new era in the sense that we are blessed with a lot of depth in our fast bowling and it's time we look at the younger guys."

"We need to have a settled

New ODI rules start early

CRICINFO, undated

India and Australia have decided to implement the ICC's proposed one-day international rule changes for their seven-match series, starting with Saturday's ODI in Bangalore. The modifications, which were supposed to come into effect from October 1, have been advanced to avoid a mid-series adjustment.

In June, the ICC had ruled the following changes in ODI playing conditions:

1. An additional fielder will be allowed outside the fielding circle during the second or third Powerplays.
2. If an ODI innings is reduced, the numbers of overs making up each of the three Powerplays shall be reduced proportionately.
3. If a bowler bowls a front foot no-ball, the following delivery will be deemed a free hit and the batsman cannot be dismissed by the bowler from that delivery. He can only be run out.

There will be a mandatory change of the ball at the start of the 35th over of each innings; the replacement will be a clean used ball.

The ICC had also increased the stipulated minimum boundary sizes for all international matches, with the square boundary measuring at least 150 yards from one side of the ground to the other [minimum 65 yards on one side; previous total minimum size was 140 yards]; and the straight boundaries 70 yards at both ends [previous minimum was 65 yards]; maximum boundaries to be used allowing for three yards between boundary rope and advertising boards up to a maximum of 90 yards from the centre of the pitch.

Mourinho exit

FROM PAGE 20

consent 10 days ago.

"He said he was happy to have left, and for him to admit it means he must have had a heavy heart.

"It felt strange to return to our training centre at Cobham and no longer see Mourinho. That was when the shock hit home.

"There was a real family spirit in the camp. We could say anything to one another. That was our strength. Many of us used to play first and foremost for the manager."

"Now we need to forget those feelings and find another source of motivation."

Terry denies

FROM PAGE 20

same this time."

With 60 goals in European competition (47 in the Champions League), Shevchenko sits alongside former AC Milan teammate Filippo Inzaghi two goals behind Gerd Muller's record.

However he insists as nice as they are, it is not personal records that matter.

He added: "It's a good, magnificent competition, with magnificent players. It's very nice, and very prestigious.

"But I don't think about how many goals I've scored, it's important now every time for the club. It's important for the team to win; if I score it's okay, but if the team wins then very good."

squad in a tough year ahead of us."

South Africa is touring Pakistan for two Tests and five one-day internationals and is due to visit India, England and Australia in the next year.

Prior to their Twenty20 setback they also lost to Australia in the semi-final of the 50-over World Cup held in the Caribbean earlier this year.

But while calling for youth, Arthur believes the team have a solid backbone. And he insists that veteran all-rounder Shaun Pollock is an integral part of the squad.

"We have got six good seamers on the scene and we can rest any one guy without damaging the team as we have variety but at the same time Pollock is an integral part of our squad," said Arthur.

Pollock got a lifeline after rookie paceman Morne Morkel hurt his foot during South Africa's drawn three-day match here on Saturday. He was facing the axe after South Africa decided to include Morkel in Monday's first Test against Pakistan.

Arthur believes his batsmen are well equipped to face spin bowling in the first Test against Pakistan.

"We can play with what we have got and I think our batsmen have the capability and the technique to tackle spinners," said Arthur.

Pakistan are likely to play with leg-spinner Danish Kaneria and left-arm spinner Abdul Rehman in the first Test.

Regime brings Swann back

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

For all the success he achieved for the national team, Duncan Fletcher's reign as England cricket coach featured an unofficial black-list of players whose faces did not quite fit.

Graeme Swann was very much one of them. Branded as being confident to the point of cockiness, he earned a solitary one-day international cap for his country in 2000, and did not feature again.

New England coach Peter Moores, who retains the same powers of selection as Fletcher, operates what seems to be a more open approach.

Players of all levels of experience, from Ryan Sidebottom to Luke Wright, have recently been thrust into the side.

Nottinghamshire all-rounder Swann -- a tidy off-break bowler who can provide quick runs -- is the latest player to earn promotion for the one-day series starting in Sri Lanka next Monday.

"I was seen as not being ideal for that regime," Swann, 28, willingly concedes when asked about Fletcher's view of him as a cricketer.

"You've got to live with that. I'm not going to turn round and criticise

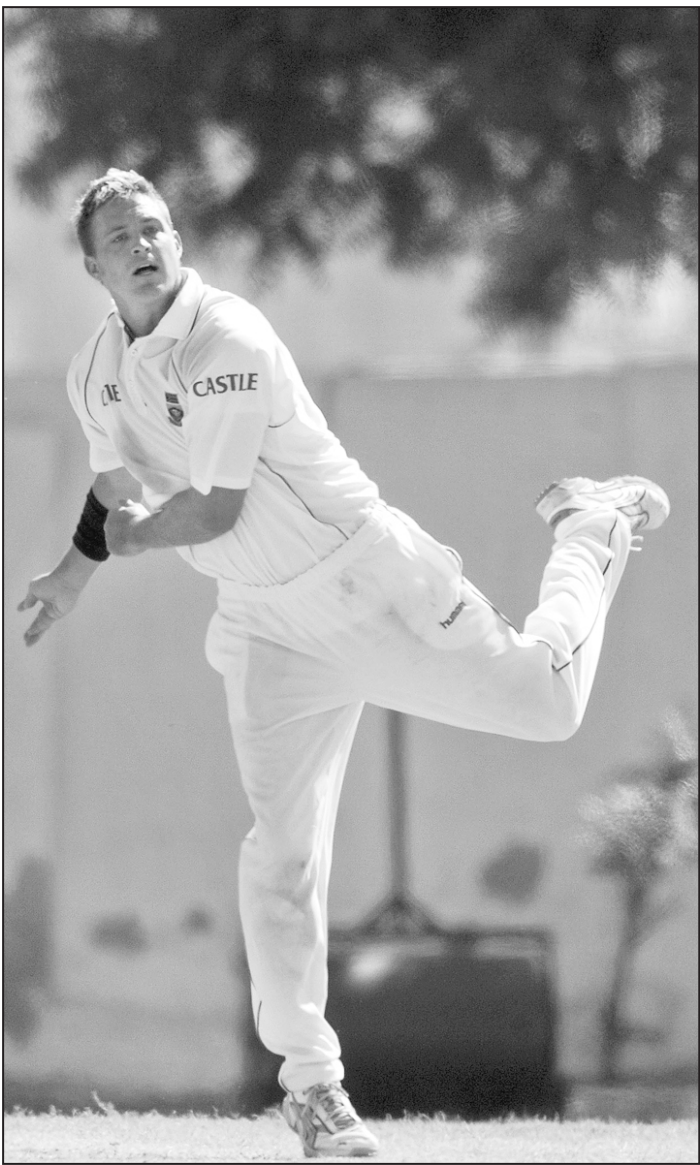


PHOTO: AFP

South African left-arm spinner Paul Harris lets rip during the last day's play against Patron's XI at the National Bank Sports Complex in Karachi yesterday.

anyone's regime, especially someone who oversaw such a strong increase in the standard of England cricket.

"But maybe with Peter Moores in, it has opened a door for me." Swann could provide meaningful backup for Monty Panesar, his former Northants teammate.

"Monty was very new when we were together at Northamptonshire," Swann told BBC Sport.

"He had unfathomable potential but was not quite the finished article.

"It will be exciting to link up with him again and I'm sure I can offer something to him as well, having played a great deal of one-day cricket.

"I'm not seeing it as he's the number one and I'm number two. I'm not looking to go to Sri Lanka in a supportive role, but to be in a partnership with Monty.

"Maybe I'm getting a bit ahead of myself but hopefully there might be a role for me to play in the Test leg as well. I had a good season in first-class cricket."

The confidence is possibly oozing already. It will surely help Swann that the most recent of his five England A tours was to Sri Lanka, in 2004-05.

"It will certainly be a challenge going out to Sri Lanka and playing against such a good one-day side,"

he says.

"The A tour went well. I'm glad I have seen what the country's like, how hot it can be and how good the cricketers there can be.

"It's very exciting. I'm hoping to get in the team and want to be there contributing as much as I do for Nottinghamshire.

"I hope I can continue the form I have showed this season for Notts, scoring my runs at a decent rate and bowling quite tidily."

In his previous, solitary, international appearance seven years ago, Swann took 0-24 in five overs and did not get a bat in an easy win for England against South Africa in Bloemfontein.

"The rhythms of the game are very similar to domestic cricket and it's not an alien game to me," he says.

"Perhaps the only real difference is that once you take three or four wickets in county cricket you are often facing weaker batting."

"In international cricket, the orders tend to be strong all the way down."

With a return to international cricket coming two years after his county move, was the move to Notts a watershed moment in Swann's career?

Clarke slams

FROM PAGE 17

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Australian innings in the opening one-day international against India at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Saturday:

AUSTRALIA					
Gilchrist c Yuvraj b Zaheer	12				
Hayden b Sreesanth	34				
Hodge lbw b Sreesanth	0				
Clarke not out	130				
Symonds lbw b Sreesanth	7				
Haddin st Dhoni b Yuvraj	69				
Hopes c Tendulkar b Zaheer	37				
Hogg not out	0				
Extras: (b-4, lb-1, w-11, nb-2)	18				
Total: (For seven wkts in 50 overs)	307				
Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-18, 3-78, 4-90, 5-234, 6-307, 7-307.					

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Zaheer	10	0	64	2
Sreesanth	10	0	55	3
RP Singh	10	0	67	0
Pathan	8	0	38	0
Powar	6	1	50	0
Yuvraj	6	0	28	1

Toss: Australia

Umpires: Steve Bucknor (WI), Suresh Shastri (IND)

Third Umpire: Amish Sahiba (IND)

Match Referee: Chris Broad (ENG)

Teams want

FROM PAGE 17

Twenty20 was remarkable and I hope that they carry that good form into the Test. That will be tough but I have faith in my players," said Malik.

TEAMS

SOUTH AFRICA (from): Graeme Smith (captain), Hashim Amla, Mark Boucher, AB de Villiers, Jean-Paul Duminy, Herschelle Gibbs, Paul Harris, Jacques Kallis, Morne Morkel, Andre Nel, Makhaya Ntini, Ashwell Prince, Dale Steyn.

PAKISTAN (from): Shoaib Malik (captain), Salman Butt, Mohammad Hafeez, Younis Khan, Mohammad Yousuf, Misbahul Haq, Umar Gul, Rao Iftikhar, Danish Kaneria, Faisal Iqbal, Yasir Hameed, Taufeeq Umar, Abdul Rehman.

Rajib finishes with victory

SPORTS REPORTER

International Master Enamul Hossain Rajib defeated Indian Grand Master Deepan Chakrabarty in the 11th and final round of the sixth Asian Individual Chess Championship at Cebu City in the Philippines yesterday.

Despite the day's win, Rajib narrowly missed his third GM norm for just half a point as he secured seven points from eleven matches to share a position from 9th to 13th with four other players.

According to tournament tie-breaking rules, Rajib has a fair chance to be placed at 10.

Chinese GM Zhang Peng Xiang emerged champions while GM Wang Hao was runner-up.

Meanwhile, FIDE Master Aminul Islam, FM Abu Sufian Shakil, FM Mehdi Hasan Parag, Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar, Soheli Chowdhury, Monir Hossain, Mahtabuddin Ahmed Robin, Enayet Hossain and Alamgir Hossain are enjoying joint lead in the Pragati Insurance Open International Rating Chess tournament with three points after the third round matches at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room.

Palash, Turbina clinch TT titles

SPORTS REPORTER

Rahmatullah Model School's Palash dismantled Talha of North South University 3-0 as he clinched the men's singles event of the Inter Dhaka Metropolitan Table Tennis competition at the West End High School yesterday.

In the women's singles event, South East Table Tennis Club's Turbina became champion, beating Binti of Azimpur Girls School 4-3.

In the men's team event, Rahmatullah Model School clinched the title, outplaying East West University (Red) 3-0 while Azimpur Girls School won the women's team event.

Brawling Akhtar faces action

AFP, Lahore

Fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar has been summoned for disciplinary action following a brawl with a teammate that led to his ouster from the Twenty20 World Cup, an official said Saturday.

The maverick paceman hit fellow fast bowler Mohammad Asif with a bat during a practice session three days before the start of the event in South Africa and was sent home a day after the incident.

"Akhtar is asked to appear before the committee on October 6 to record his statement," Shafiqat Naghmi head of Pakistan Cricket Board disciplinary committee said.

The other two members of the committee are Zakir Khan and Nadeem Akram.

The committee will not complete its investigation before October 8 -- ruling out any chance of Akhtar featuring in the two Tests against visiting South Africa.

Akhtar was not considered for selection in the Pakistan team for the first Test starting here from Monday. The second Test will be played in Lahore from October 8. Asif and allrounder Shahid Afridi, who saw the incident, have also been summoned to attend the hearing, said Naghmi.

Akhtar faces a fine of 500,000 rupees and a five one-day international ban if found guilty of misconduct.

Faridpur ride

FROM PAGE 17

As Rajshahi DSA defeated Sylhet by 4-1 goals. Noman and Shuvo scored the others while Ashraf netted the lone goal for the losers.

Rajshahi DSA and Dinajpur will battle it out today to decide which team will be the last to reach the Super Six.

Slow going

FROM PAGE 17

naming the squads by the respective divisions themselves. For the last few years, the board simultaneously announced all six divisional squads but this time they deviated from the practice to give more power to the divisions.

But unfortunately it backfired as one division released their list, which was received by only one or two newspapers.

The board formed a number of sub-committees like committee for reviewing domestic structure, for reviewing the past financial deals, but it is not clear about their HR (Human Resource) policy to strengthen the professional setup, which is most important to run modern-day cricket.

If this board keeps faith in the corporate culture to run the show, then it should review the activities of a few professionals including the present chief executive officer.

It was expected that the ad-hoc committee would be more dynamic than their predecessors, otherwise the question will be raised: Why make change at all?

ICL charges Yousuf

Cricket

PTI, Mumbai

Two days after Mohammad Yousuf took a U-turn and aligned with the Pakistan Cricket Board, the organisers of the Indian Cricket League (ICL) have shot a letter to him demanding explanation on his contract with them.

"Yousuf had got a letter asking him to explain reports of his being available to play for Pakistan within 24 hours as he was legally contracted to the ICL and had to adhere to certain clauses in his agreement with them," PCB sources said.

Yousaf on Thursday had a meeting with the PCB Chairman Nasim Ashraf and later at a joint press conference announced his availability for the first Test against South Africa, beginning from Monday in Karachi.

Yousuf had said the Board had assured him a secure future as a Pakistan player and he was drop-

ping his ICL contract.

He said it was misunderstanding with the Board that lead him to join ICL, but now everything stands clear.

Ashraf also said that the Board would take care of all legal and financial implications arising out of Yousuf's decision to sign a central contract with them.

Besides Yousuf, former captain Inzamamul Haq, Abdul Razzaq, Imran Farhat and Azhar Mahmood are the other Pakistani players to have joined the ICL.

But none of them is presently contracted with the PCB although the selectors had offered Inzamam a place in team for the first Test against South Africa, but he turned down the offer on personal grounds.

Meanwhile, without mentioning the rebel Indian Cricket League or its promoters by name, BCCI President Sharad Pawar, in his annual report, has laid the blame squarely on India's World Cup debacle for the launch of ICL by Subhash Chandra's Essel Group.

'Everyone knows me now'

Cricket

INTERNET, undated

The cheers were spontaneous and the clamour for a picture with him never subsided. Yusuf Pathan smiled a bit, paused a bit and in between the warm embraces from officials -- both from the Baroda Cricket Association and Reliance Industries -- the elder of the Pathan brothers, was answering incessant calls on his cell phone.

Life has changed for him ever since he returned with the triumphant Indian team after the World Twenty20 Championship. "Before I was known only here," Yusuf said and pointed out to the fans and officials assembled at the Reliance Cricket Stadium, his home ground, here on Friday.

"And now everyone knows me, yes in that sense things have changed forever," Yusuf added. Yusuf was at the Reliance Stadium to attend a felicitation function organised by Reliance Industries and the company

officials also presented him with a cheque for Rs. 2,00,100.

Yusuf donned India colours for the first time in the final at Johannesburg and the setting had pressure as its backdrop -- an India-Pakistan final and he as an opener was facing Mohammad Asif. Pathan admitted that he was under some strain.

"Yes there was pressure. I was informed about playing as an opener after the team meeting on the morning of the final. I had about three to four hours to get mentally prepared for the match and captain Dhoni, Yuvraj and Sehwag told me to play my natural game and asked me not to think too much about the game so that I don't get affected by the pressure," said Yusuf.

And then the six. "It was not a pre-determined shot. The ball was in the range for my lofted shot and I went through with it. I was relaxed once I was there in the middle, I prayed a bit and it was a great feeling to be part of a team that won the cup. I will never ever forget that day as well as the reception we got in Mumbai," said the 24-year-old Baroda all-rounder.

When asked if he had come out from the shadow of younger brother Irfan, he smilingly replied, "Does it matter, he is my brother and I am proud of him. What's the harm in people referring to me as Irfan's brother? I have no problems with that, after all we are brothers."

Clash of styles

FROM PAGE 20

Americans.

"We're working well as a team and we're helping each other," said Prinz, who is playing in her fourth World Cup and brings a wealth of experience to the side.

"The secret of our success is our belief in ourselves. That's unbelievably important."

Brazilian coach Jorge Barcellos knows his team are on the verge of a major breakthrough, having never got this far before, but remains grounded, aware of the threat from a German side that has already scored 19 goals.

"Germany is a very strong team and we need to make plans," he said after their semifinal.

"Now, we are still nothing and we still have a long way to go to beat

Germany in the final."

The duel between Marta, the tournament's leading scorer with seven goals, and the German defence will be pivotal, although she modestly plays down her part in the team's success.

"We are creating history by making the final and that is not down to me, it is down to a great performance by our team," she said.

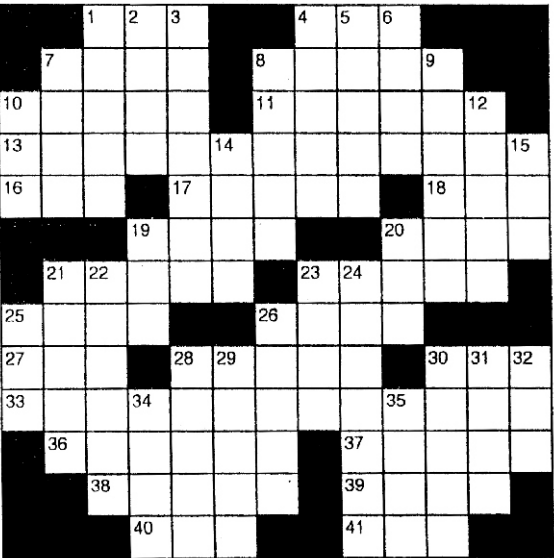
"My goal is always to be the best and that is why I work so hard, but without my teammates I would be nothing."

Ahead of the final here on Sunday, a dejected United States must rally for a third-place play-off against 1995 champions Norway.

Coach Greg Ryan has come under fierce criticism for recalling veteran goalkeeper Briana Scurry

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	25 Burn	2 News-	14 Stop
1 Building	somewhat	paper	15 —
site	26 Locate	page	Diego
4 Filling	27 Satchel	3 Gradu-	19 Always,
station	28 Tumbler	ation	in
stat	30 Exercise	souvenirs	verse
7 One	venue	4 Busi-	20 Moreover
of the	33 1958	ness big-	21 Utter
Three	of the	wig	confusion
Bears	36 Deli	5 Weakens	22 Old-
8 Sows'	sausage	word	clothes
mates	37 Big	diagram	dealer
10 Members	of a	7 indigent	23 Work-
skulk	38 Zenith's	8 Churlish	bench
11 Lecher's	opposite	ones	attach-
activity	39 Hibernia	9 Furlive	ment
13 Snubs	40 Profit	10 Media	24 Loop
16 Weep	41 Scepter	agcy.	member
17 Counts'	DOWN	12 "The	25 Rather's
counter-	1 With	Da	old
parts	negi-	Vinci	home
18 Motorists'	genie-	Code"	26 Derivish
org.	subject	Solution time: 21 mins.	28 Open
19 Right	angles	1 With	area
20 Related	21 Top	of	in a
21 Top	of a	wave	forest
23 What	45s	were	29 Maximum
made	of	of	30 Fragment
of	of	of	31 Benedict
of	of	of	XIV,
of	of	of	e.g.
of	of	of	32 Chowed
of	of	of	down
of	of	of	34 Verve
of	of	of	35 Small
of	of	of	band



CRYPTOQUIP

T D R H S D M J D B H S P L P D Z L D S

B Z E Z T P D M H U Z P P Z U D Z E D -

R V S D J D L V E Z I I D Z S D L

B V M J H G M Z M S G U D .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU'RE NOT CONFIDENT IN THE INVESTMENTS YOU'VE MADE, DO YOU HAVE SECURITY INSECURITY?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals T