

WICB parts with WIPA president

CRICINFO
The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has decided to snap contact with the president of the West Indies Players' Association (WIPA) Dinanath Ramnarine due to what it claims was his "threatening action" against board CEO Ernest Hilaire and "unprofessional behaviour" during a meeting arranged to resolve the problem over Chris Gayle's non-selection. The board, however, said it will continue to engage WIPA over issues concerning players. "The WICB will continue to treat WIPA, the representative body of the players, with the highest degree of respect and as a principal partner in West Indies cricket and will continue to engage WIPA on matters pertaining to West Indian players," a release issued by the WICB, following a meeting of its board of directors, stated.

Shakib now

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Shanthy and Gareth Andrew picked up one each. In the second innings, Richardson and Shanthy took two each to reduce Hampshire to 40 or four in the 14th over, before Neil McKenzie and Nic Pothas staged a fightback. The South African pair added 143 for the fifth wicket with McKenzie hammering eight boundaries in his unbeaten 68 while Pothas, the wicketkeeper, struck two sixes and four boundaries in his more attacking 72. In the second innings, Shakib took one wicket, that of Dominic Cork. Worcestershire have won just one game in the competition so far while Hampshire are winless so far and are bottom of the table.

Muktis' hopes

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enough for the strugglers to avert defeat. At eleventh place with 17 points, Chittagong Mohammedan are in grave danger of relegation. Back in Dhaka, Arambagh KS ensured they were on the top-tier football for at least one more season with a 2-0 win over Farashganj SC at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Subair Mohammed and Bangoura Ismael struck one apiece for Arambagh, who now have 24 points from 21 matches. With Chittagong Abahani already relegated in the 12-team league, the second team to be relegated will be confirmed amongst Farashganj SC (19 from 21 games), Feni Soccer Club (18 from 21 games) and Chittagong Mohammedan (17 from 21 games) in the final round. Chittagong Mohammedan will face Arambagh while Feni Soccer will host Farashganj.

BCB seeks fair

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"As I said earlier that everything depends on the respective boards. Right at the moment we have two home series against India but we will try to accommodate at least one away series against India within next eight years time. Nothing is final yet," hoped Manzur. The former cricketer was also hopeful about the pending Test series against Australia. "Most probably Australia is offered to play the pending Test series in 2014 but we are trying to make it happen in 2013," said Manzur. He also informed that the ICC AGM will be held on June 30 where the main agenda will be whether the ICC president will be elected or go on with the current rotation policy. Bangladesh is in favour of completion of the circle of the rotation policy before going into the election.

Venus, Nadal get going

AP, Wimbledon



Rafael Nadal opened his Wimbledon title defence in convincing style Monday, shaking off an early service break and cruising to a 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 victory over Michael Russell. In keeping with tradition, the defending men's champion played the first match on Centre Court at the All England Club -- and the top-ranked Spaniard put on a worthy performance to kick off proceedings on the 125th edition of the championships.

Five-time women's champion Venus Williams, back on her favourite grass surface, also swept into the second round with a straight-set win over 97th-ranked Akgul Amanmuradova of Uzbekistan. Nadal, coming off his sixth straight French Open title and 10th overall Grand Slam championship, double-faulted to go down a break 4-2 in the first set against the 91st-ranked Russell. But Nadal buckled down, ran off six straight games to take the set and go up a break in the second. He was in total command the rest of the way against the 33-year-old American.

Williams, who returned to action at Eastbourne last week after an injury layoff of nearly five months, looked right at home at the All England Club as she beat Amanmuradova 6-3, 6-1. Williams kept her opponent waiting for several minutes on Court 2, with Amanmuradova sitting patiently on her court-side chair for the 31-year-old American to arrive.

Once play started, Williams took Amanmuradova apart in 59 minutes with her hard-hitting all-court game. She served seven aces, broke four times and had 23 winners to only five unforced errors -- none in the second set. Amanmuradova, who has now lost in the first round at Wimbledon in all four appearances, is taller than Williams at 6-foot-3 and can hit the ball hard. But once Williams found her rhythm, she couldn't be stopped, winning six games in a row



PHOTO: AFP

US tennis star Venus Williams celebrates her victory over Uzbekistan's Akgul Amanmuradova on the opening day of the 2011 Wimbledon Tennis Championships at the All England Tennis Club yesterday.

and the last 12 points to close out the match. Williams made a statement not only with her tennis but with her fashion sense -- wearing a one-piece playsuit which exposed some of her back. The outfit featured cutout sleeves, a deep V neckline and a gold belt wrapped around the waist. Williams has fallen to No. 30 in the rankings, but is seeded No. 23 -- the same position she held when she won the tournament in 2007. Playing in her 15th Wimbledon, she extended her record to 69-9.

Williams' second-round opponent will be Japan's Kimiko Date-Krumm, who became the second oldest woman to win a match at Wimbledon, beating Katie O'Brien 6-0, 7-5 on Monday. The 40-year-old Date-Krumm, the third oldest women to compete at Wimbledon in the Open era and the oldest in this year's draw, came out of retirement in 2008 but lost in the first round the last two years at the All England Club.

In another featured women's match, 2010 runner-up Vera Zvonareva overcame 115th-ranked American Alison Riske 6-0, 3-6, 6-3.

The first seeded man to lose was No. 30 Thomaz Bellucci of Brazil, who fell 7-6 (3), 6-4, 6-2 to Rainer Schuettler of Germany. The 35-year-old Schuettler is the oldest player in the men's draw.

Tenth-seeded American Mardy Fish beat Spain's Marcel Granollers 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5), 6-4, while big-serving Canadian Milos Raonic, playing his first Wimbledon, was a 6-3, 7-6 (3), 6-3 winner over Marc Gicquel of France. No. 14 Stanislas Wawrinka beat Potito Starace, Italy, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Super Cup

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are Sheikh Jamal Dhanonidi Club, Mukhtijodha Sangsad, Abahani, Mohammedan SC, Sheikh Russel KC and Brothers Union.

Like the Bangladesh League, each team can field maximum four foreign players from registered five in a match and the six clubs can borrow players from the other league clubs by mutual consent.

Sanath's tearful selection

DAILY MAIL

Sri Lanka's troubled tour is set to take a new twist following the arrival of veteran batsman Sanath Jayasuriya for a two-match farewell to the international game.

The 41-year-old, who has not played for his country since May 2010, practised at the Rose Bowl on Sunday after senior Sri Lankan politicians insisted on his inclusion in Saturday's Twenty20 international at Bristol and next week's first one-day international at The Oval.

But his presence here has pushed tensions within Sri Lanka's dressing room to breaking point. Kumar Sangakkara, the tourists' stand-in skipper for the third Test here after Tillekeratne Dilshan broke his thumb at Lord's, is understood to have resigned the captaincy following the World Cup because of political interference in team selection.

Both he and Mahela Jayawardene have privately expressed their objections to the inclusion of Jayasuriya, who was elected as a member of the Sri Lankan parliament last year, and younger members of the touring party have been in tears.

A senior member of the Sri Lankan dressing room told Sportsmail: "If Jayasuriya made his comeback in Sri Lanka, he'd be booed. People are coming up to me in the streets of Colombo asking why he's been picked."

But Jayasuriya said: "I was offered the chance to play in the whole series, but I decided to play only two games."

Stamina may

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start running from tomorrow (Tuesday)."

And although interim coach Golam Jilani was satisfied with his 30 minute cameo, he admitted that his lack of stamina would hinder his selection for the final squad.

"We have little time before the match against Pakistan, but he (Jamal) needs some time to cope with the weather and at the moment he is not fully ready for the national team."

"There is nothing to be disappointed with his performance as he likes to play taking some place around him but the weather is a factor here.

"I believe that once he gets used with the weather we can get better service from him," said Jilani.

BCCI, SLC clash over SLPL

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

The cricket boards of India and Sri Lanka clashed Monday over a new Twenty20 competition set to be held in Colombo next month after Indian players were barred from taking part.

Up to a dozen Indian players including fast bowlers Praveen Kumar and Munaf Patel had sought permission to play in the Sri Lanka Premier League (SLPL) to be staged in Colombo from July 19 to August 4.

"We have decided that no Indian cricketer will be given permission to take part in the league as it is being organised by a private party based in Singapore," a senior Indian cricket official told AFP, asking not to be named.

"The board's policy does not allow players to take part in private tournaments," he added.

The Board of Control for Cricket in

India (BCCI) had earlier said it had no problems with the league and that Indian players were free to take part as long as there was no conflict with international or domestic schedules.

The BCCI's U-turn came after media reports that the SLPL was being organised by Singapore-based Somerset Entertainment Ventures, which allegedly has links with Lalit Modi, the sacked former boss of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) said that the tournament would go ahead anyway, adding that the Indian authorities were wrong to believe a private company was organising the competition.

"We are trying to convince BCCI to change their decision," SLC secretary Nishantha Ranatunga told reporters in Colombo on Monday.

Ranatunga insisted that the tournament was owned by SLC and that only the marketing rights had been sold to Somerset Entertainment Ventures.

"We have a lot of control over the

tournament and the team composition. It's a slightly different model from the IPL," Ranatunga said.

Former IPL supremo Modi, who now lives in London, denied he was linked to Somerset and attacked his former colleagues at the BCCI.

"It seems best way to scuttle any plans is to say Lalit Modi is behind it," Modi said on Twitter. "Good to know that just mentioning my name can send a shiver down their spines."

Modi faces criminal charges including false accounting, and accusations by the BCCI that more than \$106 million was misappropriated during his three-year tenure as IPL chairman.

Relations between the Indian and Sri Lanka boards were dented earlier this year after Sri Lanka asked their players to return during the IPL and prepare for the tour of England.

The Sri Lankan board later relented, saying it did not want to spoil "excellent" relations with the government of India and the Indian cricket board.

S'kara bats to safety

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four, with Sangakkara 89 not out and Samaraweera 26 not out.

By that stage the 33-year-old Sangakkara, who resigned as Sri Lanka captain after their World Cup final defeat by India in Mumbai in April, had surpassed his previous Test-best in England of 66 at Trent Bridge five years ago.

England, though, were only one more over away from the new ball, which they took as soon as they could.

Sangakkara went into the 90s with a lucky four over the slips off Anderson before a comfortable single off Broad saw him to a hundred featuring 13 fours and spanning nearly five and a half hours after he came in at 25 for one.

England had built a strong position by bowling Sri Lanka out for just 184 in the tourists' first innings, with Tremlett, on the ground where he played for Hampshire before moving to Surrey last season, taking a Test-best six for 48.

Ian Bell's 119 not out -- his second century of the series following his unbeaten 103 in Cardiff --

helped give England a first innings lead of 193 and allowed Strauss to make an enterprising declaration.

SCORES IN BRIEF
SRI LANKA: First innings 184
ENGLAND: First innings 377 decl
SRI LANKA: Second innings 334 for 5 (Paranavithana 10, Thirimanne 38, Sangakkara 119, Herath 36, Samaraweera 87 not out; Anderson 2-81)
Result: Match drawn and England won three-match series 1-0.

School h'ball

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Scholastica outplayed Siddheswari Girls School by 18-0 points, Motijheel Govt. Girls' School drew 3-3 with South Point School while Sunnydale defeated Ispahani Girls' School and College 9-1.

Earlier, the acting president of FBCCI Jasim Uddin inaugurated the tournament where CEO of Dhaka Ice Cream Industries Limited Taufikur Rahman was also present.

BFF appeals

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chairman Badal Roy said.

"He told me that he will let me know tomorrow (Tuesday) about his decision."

"Aminul is an example as he served from a long period for the national side and I personally believe he should retire from the field," said Roy, who is also the BFF vice president.

Aminul tendered his retirement on Saturday citing a need to give more time to his family as well as making room for the upcoming players. Despite that he has been retained in the 27-member preliminary squad.

Bangladesh will play their home match on June 29 before facing Pakistan on July 3 in Lahore.

When contacted, Aminul said, "I still stick to my previous decision and convey my decision to the BFF tomorrow (Tuesday) after discussing the matter with my family members and well-wishers, who helped me to take the retirement decision in the first place."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

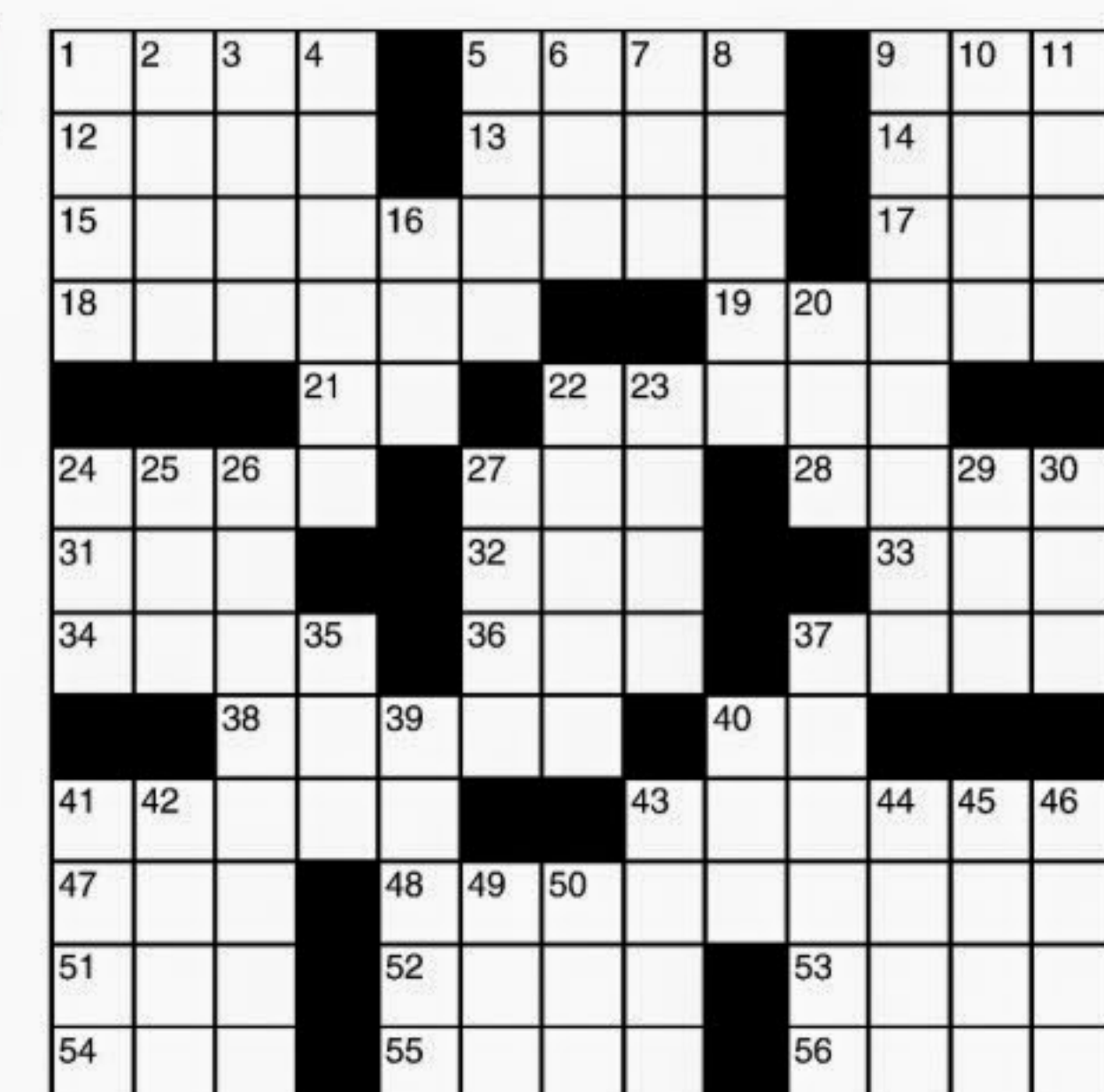
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42 Periodic Table fig.
43 Recognize
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45 Bank transaction
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49 "That feels so-o-o good!"
50 Scandinavian rug

Solution time: 25 mins.

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A MONTHLY MAGAZINE
ALL ABOUT CERTAIN STRINGED INSTRUMENT
PLAYERS COULD BE "HARPIST'S BAZAAR."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals T