Times Sport

Matthews sacked from touring party

SYDNEY: Test all-rounder Greg Matthews is a shock omission from the Australian squad to tour Sri Lan-ka and play in the World Cup in India and Pakistan later this year.

India and Pakistan later this year.
Other surprise omissions are former Test batsman Greg Ritchie and wicketkeeper Tim Zoehrer.
Matthews was recently fined \$1,000 by the Australian Cricket Board on matters arising out of the 27-year-old's tour of Sharjah earlier

Ritchie and Zoehrer, with Matthews, could well be the victims of the selectors looking for new blood in an attempt to arrest Australia's international decline.

Western Australian Zoehrer has a second chance, being named on the five-player reserve list for the World

The squad:
Allan Border (captain), Geoff Marsh
(vice-captain), David Boon, Greg Dyer,
Dean Jones, Craig McDermott, Tim
May, Tom Moody, Simon O'Donnell,
Brace Reid, Peter Sleep, Peter Taylor,
Mike Veletta, Stephen Waugh, Andrew

Australia has nominated five re-serves for the World Cup squad: Glenn Bishop, Simon Davis, Merv Hughes, Jamie Siddons and Tim Zo-

ehrer.
One of the 15-man squad will be dropped before the World Cup.

dropped before the World Cup.

But Australian Cricket Board chairman Malcolm Gray, commenting on what appeard to be a change of direction and new blood in the Australian team, said the board hadn't given any direction to the selection panel of Laurie Sawle (chairman), Greg Chappell, Jim Higgs or Dick Guy to exclude — or include — any cricketer on grounds other than cricket.

The Australian gaund includes

The Australian squad includes three faces new to the international scene — SA spinner Tim May, 25, and his medium-pace colleague, 20-year-old Andrew Zesers, plus WA's 21-year-old Tom Moody, a right-hand bat and right-arm, medi-

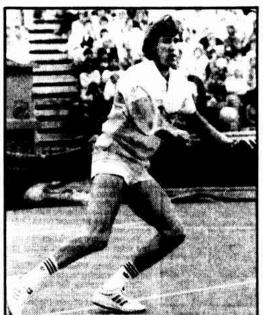
STRIKE THREAT: English cricketers are prepared to go on strike if they are banned from playing or coaching in South Africa, British press reports said in London

yesterday.

They plan to resist an anti-apartheid move by West Indies cricket officials, who have tabled a motion to the sport's world governing body, the International Cricket Conference, to ban anyone who plays or coaches in South Africa from international cricket.



Wimbledon 'is my home'



Kevin Curren on his way to a loss to . . .

LONDON, Friday (AP). — Wimbledon and Boris Becker are as inseparable as strawberries and cream.

Neither tastes quite so good with-

As he prepares to win the Wimble-don men's singles tennis crown for the second time, the 19-year-old West German has been in sparkling form. powering his way into the quarter-fi-nals of the Stella Artois tournament at Queens Club, West London. Becker says he is surprised by how

well he is playing and is eager to get back on the centrecourt at Wimble-

don.
"I can't wait to get out there at 2

o'clock on that first Monday," he said. "I won't feel any pressure. Whoever I play, I'll go out and enjoy it.

imbledon is my home.

In his latest grasscourt tune-up — Queen's, a tournament he won in 1985 on the way to his first Wimble-don title — Becker slammed 10 aces to beat John Sadri, of the US, 6-4, 6-4, losing only seven points in 10 service

games.
"I did not expect to be playing so two days," well on grass after just two days," Becker said. "Queen's means much more to me than any warm-up tour nament. It was my first big win in England."

Masur scares Edberg

The No 2 seed, Stefan Edberg, of Sweden, received a scare against Can-berra's Wally Masur.

Masur extended the Australian Open champion to 6-7, 7-6, 6-4. Ed-berg also had to survive two rain in-

Edberg, scheduled to meet Becker in the final, was in trouble for 11/2 sets against Masur. The Australian took the opening

set and broke Edberg in the first game of the second before rain interrupted play for 35 minutes. When the match resumed, breaks

were exchanged and Masur led 4-3, 30-30 when a thunderstorm took the players off for a further 2½ hours. Two shots changed the course of the match on the second resumption.

The Swede ripped off two stinging

service returns, took Masur's serve and squared the match when he won the tiebreaker with the loss of just one

In the quarter-finals, Edberg's op-ponent will be another Australian, Pat Cash, who beat Kevin Curren 7-5,



... Pat Cash, who enters the quarters.

Australian women make semi-finals

BRNO, Czechoslovakia, Friday (AAP). — The Australian women's basketball team moved into the semi-finals of the Brno international tournament yesterday with a resounding 76-50 win over Romania.

Australia gained control only midway through the second half, after leading at the break by only

All 12 team members were called on to play, with Shelley Gorman and Marina Moffa outstanding, scoring nine and 12 points respec-

Moffa shot 71 per cent of her

Moria shot 71 per cent of her attempts.

The Australians next face Czechoslovakia — and are confident of victory.

At their most recent meeting in the Hungarhotels Cup in Hungary last week, Australia beat Czechoslovakia by 23 points.

Cuba meets Canada in the other semi-final.

semi-final.

Meanwhile, Australian Robyn Maher has been named in the tour-nament All-Star Five.

The Victorian was second on the intscore table. Maher has top scored in all but

two games played on the current tour of Hungary and Czechoslova-kia.

SPORT AROUND THE WORLD

Blackmailer threatens Suzuka Grand Prix

☐ FOUR RECORDS: East Ger-

mans have recorded four 1987 world best performances at a two-day athletics meeting in Neubrandenburg.

World record holder Jurgen Schult threw the discus 69.52m, the best performance so far this year, and Silke Gladisch clocked

Gladisch, Kerstin Behrendt

Ingrid Auerswald and world

champion Marlies Gohr clocked the best time this year for the women's 4 x 100m relay in 42.38sec and Cornelia Oschken-

at, silver medallist at last year's European championships in Stuttgart, set a 1987 world best time of 12.45sec for the 100m

☐ TORRANCE HOT: British

a 200m time of 22.22sec.

SUZUKA, Japan, Friday (AFP). — Organisers of the Ja-pan formula one grand prix have received a blackmail threat saying that unless they pay the equi-valent of \$A197,000 the race would be blocked, police said

A threatening letter was deliv-ered last Friday to the Suzuka Circuit where the 16th leg of the formula one world driver's championships will be held at the end of October.

ganisers deposit the money at a designated bank in Nagoya, near Suzuka, by Monday. "Unless the demand is met. I

The letter demanded the or-

will obstruct the race," the black-mailer said. The Suzuka race represents a comeback by Japan to the for-mula-one circuit after a 10-year

DSIX UNDER: Deb Richard. of the US, whose best finish this year was a tie for 16th place at the LPGA championship, posted a six-under-par 66 at Indianapolis to take the first-round lead in the \$A490,210

Richard holds a one-stroke lead over compatriots Lenore Muraoka, Colleen Walker and Cathy Gerring who are tied for second on 67

Jan Stephenson finished the first round two strokes off the pace in a four-way tie with fel-low-Australian Penny Pulz and Americans Lisa Young and Su-

Ryder Cup golfers Howard Clark and Sam Torrance have continued to dominate the French Open Championship at

the previous day.

Clark shot 68 to stay ahead on 132, but a 67 from Torrance lifted him within a stroke of his playing partner. American Joey Sindelar, who

had a best of the day 64, and South African Hugh Baiocchi, who shot 66, share third place a stroke further back on 134. The two leading Australians, Peter Senior and Mike Clayton,

Peter Senior and Mike Clayson, have each shot a pair of 69s.

— Reuter ☐ THIRD WIN: Paolo Rosola of Italy has notched his third win of the Giro d'Italia cycle race in a stage marred by a crash metres from the finish which put two riders in hospital.

Rosola, already winner of the eighth and 10th stages, crossed the line fractionally ahead of teammate Alberto Volpi and Ed-dy Planckaert, of Belgium, after 10 circuits of Como in the conclusion of the 20th stage.

Ireland's Stephen Roche hung on to the overall lead, crossing the line with the main pack and retaining the pink jersey with a 33sec margin over Erik Breu-

Also in the leading group, in ninth place, was Australia's Phil Anderson, whose performance was good enough for him to retain tenth place overall.

CRICKET BACKLASH: Geoff Cook, chairman of the English Cricketers' Association, predicts a backlash from his members if the International Cricket Con-ference bans any players with South African links.

England's Test and County ricket Board are to discuss whether to support a motion by the West Indies to ban from international cricket any players who play or coach in South Afri-ca. The motion is due to be debated at a special ICC meeting in London on June 26.

Former England opener Cook said around 20 per cent of the association's 360 county cricketers regularly visited South Africa during the English winter and he felt individual players should not be singled out. not be singled out.

Drug plan one of world's best

The Australian Sports Commission and Drug Offensive anti-drugs education program was rated "among the best in the world" by US doctor Bruce Woolley, key speaker at the First World Sympo-sium on Doping in Sport, beld in Florence.

The coordinator of the National Drugs in Sport Program, Steve Haynes, said more than 40 coun-tries and international sporting organisations used the program, which had become a success mainly because of the commitment of the Australian Sports Commission. Features of the program included ran-dom testing of government-funded athletes and a Sports Against Drugs Register, containing signatures of athletes opposed to the use of drugs in

The register recently attracted its 1000th signa-ture, that of Australian boxer Jeff Fenech. Others who had signed included Olympic gold medallist Glynnis Nunn, sprinter Diane Holden, cricketer Jeff Lawson, Socceroo John Kosmina, and Sydney

Haynes said the importance of role models for

"After all, it is their sporting future drugs are compromising," he said. "We must ensure sport remains essentially about the matching of natural capabilities and not who has the best chemists."

A teaching program would be implemented by coaches, physical and health educators, following workshops to be held over Australia later this year.

"What we are talking about is changing the atti-tude of children towards drug use in sport and society," Haynes said. "This process will take time but must start now." The ASC was expected to recommend details of sports drug-testing facilities to the Federal Government later this month, after the recent loss of international accreditation by the Brisbane-based

Confederation rethink

The Confederation of Australian Sport has sought clarification of the Liberal Party sports poli-

cy after earlier giving mild support.

The president of the confederation, Les Martyn, said that the confederation was concerned that the policy did not provide any assurances that funding would be maintained or increased.

Michael Beattie makes a tackle . . . "I think

Beattie backs entertaining

SYDNEY: St George centre Mi-chael Beattie believes nine more victories, starting with South Sydney at the SCG today, should be enough to lift the Dragons into this year's Sydney rugby-league premiership semi-fi-

Reattie said Saints started the Win. field Cup second round with the view that if they lost only four matches, they'd have a chance of figuring in the

The plan was rattled by Sunday's loss to Manly but Beattle remains optimistic, even though Saints have on-ly 11 competition points — five less than fifth-placed Canberra and

Beattie said, "We calculated that

we could lose four second-round games and we've lost one already. "We thought we'd beat Manly and get a roll on but the loss hasn't shock-ed us and in the next month or so, we play the middle five teams and I think we can win the lot . . .
"We'll take our chances and play

entertaining football."
Only four teams have scored more points that the Dragons this season.

Rovers 'concern' Arok

TAEGU, South Korea, Friday (AAP). — Australian Socceroos coach Frank Arok will make another five changes to retain freshness among his players for the match against Ire-land's Rovers at Taegu tomorrow. Charlie Yankos, Wally Savor, Graham Jennings, Peter Raskopoulos and Paul Wade

return to the side with Robbie Dunn, Oscar Crino, Frank Farina, Graham Arnold and Andrew Zinni holding their places. Arok said, "I'm a little concerned about the

Rovers because they are a better side than indicated by the scores.

"It's the first time I'd like the weather to be hot instead of the present coolness, because they would probably crack under pressure in

Arok believes the Australians will be stron-ger in attack and in midfield than the Rovers.

However, Ireland strikers Noel Larkin and Michael Byrne are hoping the luck of the Irish will be with.

But the goals have been lacking in the first two rounds of the President's Cup in South Korea and they are unlikely to be given many chances by the Socceroos.

made by the organising committee for the 1990 World Cup which the International Football Federation executive committee ac-cepted yesterday at their meeting in Zurich.

Sports results and details

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JUNE 15: Moruya JC. 20: Queanbeyan RC, Nowra DRC. 23: Illawarra TC. 27: ACT RC.

By GEORGE LOMBARD When age takes its toll of physical ca-pacity, what becomes of the sportsman's enthusiasm for activity and entertain-

Are we all destined to become addicted to the spectacle of sport on television or is there some more participative encounter For Neil Townsend, former ACT bockey player and a retired deputy secretary after 43 years in the Public Service, partici

pation takes the form of writing letters to newspapers and those on the public stage newspapers and those on the public stage who profess opinions.

Townsend is celebrating this week the official 50th anniversary of Old Canberrans men's hockey club, even though illness will prevent him from attending the commemorative dinner tonight.

Although practically confined to quarters had been to a buy server to the confined to quarters had been to the confined to quarters.

ters. Neil spent an hour entertaining me over the phone this week with stories of the old days of Canberra hockey and his letter-writing deeds.
"I suppose I'm just a bit of a stirrer. I'm not a hard bugger, there are just a few things I believe in," he said. "I've always been a bit of a nuisance."

It isn't only letters to the papers, al-though he has been successful at getting almost all of his letters published. He has a current correspondence running with poet Max Harris about some statements in the media to the effect that Australians suffer from an anti-cultural cringe, and Harris is about to receive another letter supporting his comments about the unsuitability of nessmen as national managers in poli-

Neil's bipartisan view is that big bucks don't automatically qualify one to run the country, citing both John Brown and Wilson Tuckey as examples of people who need political nous as much as business sense. He holds some strong views about New Right leader Andrew Hay. Stirring came early in Townsend's ca-reer as a hockey administrator, and he still

mover in arranging the split of Old Can-berrans into two clubs, when, in the early 1950s, the club was far too strong for the

dom is that the split was entirely necessary for the good of Canberra hockey. Townsend was also an early mover for ACT statchood in hockey, which came about only in 1972.

the papers about nockey, I saked into all some of his opinions on the game.

He appreciated the influence which artificial surfaces had had on the game, although he was quick to point out that they were no new phenomenon, citing the cin-

□ NO CHANGE:The 1990 World Cup soccer finals in Italy are to have an unchanged format, including the penalty shoot-outs which were a controversial aspect of last year's tournament in Mexico.

This was among the recommendation made by the organising committee for the made by the organising committee for the

Townsend, a stirrer celebrates 50 years

Andrew Deane and Peter Shea may have passed on to greater things, but the ACT hockey selectors have found 16 players for the Australian under-21 championships to keep their spirit alive. Deane would in theory be available

for the ACT under-21 team for anothe ior the ACI under-21 team for another season after this but the Australian se-lectors have ruled him out of the under-21 championships to be held in Mel-bourne from July 29 to August 9 so that he can meet his Australian commitents. Shea, in contrast, is now simply too

will captain the team and Lenon St Pats' Andrew Aldons will be his deputy. The team:
McLennan, Aldous, A. Conyngham, D.
MacDonald, R. MacDonald, A. Palfreyman, S. Carter, D. Carter, C. Bayldon, C.
Gallagher, G. Thompson, J. Venn, C. Johson, F. Nichols, A. Jones, F. Genero, Manager: A. Carter, Conch: B. J. O'Shea.

Old Canberrans' Graham McLennar

remembers with regret that he was a prime

With the split, a new club, Waratah, was formed and, in the nature of club life, some friendships were damaged for a time. Today, of course, the common wis-

Although Townsend has yet to write to the papers about hockey, I asked him to air

der pitch in Camberwell, Victoria, on which he played just after the war. As his playing years ended in 1950 be-cause of failing eyesight, Townsend turned

to umpiring. to umpring.

Some players would suggest cynically that even today such a progression occurs all too frequently, but Neil was never criticised for what he failed to see, but rather, what he refused to accept as a just rule.

what he refused to accept as a just rule.

Neil's primary message today is still for
the rule-makers. He believes, as he has for
40 years, that the rule against touching the
bail with one's body makes the game too
technical, difficult to watch, and slows it

technical, difficult to watch, and slows it down.

"When I was an umpire I used to declare 'play on' to keep the game going," he said. "Of course, some of the players used to whinge, but it's a bad rule."

There are the memories of the early days as well: during the war some of the fiercest combat in Canberra was between the local teams and the Dutch Air Force side which was stationed here. According to Neil, they were "vicious, blood and guts" affairs; no prisoners were taken.

guts" affairs: no prisoners were taken Like many of the old hands at Old Canberrans, Townsend came here with his parents at the start of Canberra govern-ment in 1927, and studied at Telopea Park because it was practically the only school available. The driving force behind his early hockey development was Arthur Martin, an industrial arts teacher at the

Martin, an industrial aris teacher at the school, "a great inspirer of youth".

But the many people who have known Neil over the years still find it difficult to believe that such a "gentle" man could write such stinging rebukes to the press. His explanation is simple: "I read and follow the news; if something interests me or if I think people are being idiotic, I just set into them." get into them

More power to your word processor, Neil Townsend.
Old Canberrans celebrate their golden jubilee teaight with a function at the Lithuanian Club, Lyneham.