



## CRICKETT ANYONE?

West Indies batsman Darren Ganga looks back as he is caught by Mark Boucher off a delivery by South African bowler Makhaya Ntini (top) for 10 runs at Newlands cricket ground in Cape Town on Tuesday. The West Indies were on 128 runs for 2 wickets at lunch on the fifth day of the third test and need to score 441 runs to win.

## Green to coach of NFL's Cardinals

### Special to Sentinel-Voice

TEMPE, Ariz. - Dennis Green, one of the winningest NFL coaches in the 1990s, signed a five-year contract Wednesday to guide the struggling Arizona Cardinals.

The 54-year-old Green, who had a 97-62 record in 10 seasons with Minnesota and led the Vikings into the playoffs eight times, spent the day in San Diego exchanging faxes and phone calls with Cardinals officials in Tempe.

The Cardinals did not release details on his salary. The team announced his hiring through e-mail, and neither vice president Michael Bidwill nor football operations vice president Rod Graves, the driving force to land Green, returned calls to their offices and cell phones.

"He is a proven winner with an outstanding track record of success," owner Bill Bidwill said in the release.

The Cardinals planned to introduce him Friday at a news conference.

Green was 4-8 in the postseason, one of the reasons he was fired late in the 2001 season.

The Vikings went 15-1 in 1998 and wound up losing in the NFC title game. They also lost in the 2000 NFC championship game.

Green made a smooth transition to football commentator on television while looking for opportunities to get back on the sideline. He recently interviewed for the head coaching jobs at Oakland and Washington.



DENNIS GREEN

He interviewed for several jobs last season, but wanted more control than any of the teams were willing to give him.

A disciple of former 49ers coach Bill Walsh, Green was head coach at Northwestern and Stanford before taking the Vikings' job.

"The attraction of Arizona for Denny is that the Cardinals' organization has had trouble winning and now a lot of people don't expect them to start winning," said Gary O'Hagan, Green's agent told the Associated Press late Wednesday. "That creates a lot of upside, an opportunity for success."

He said the team's new stadium in Glendale, Ariz., adjacent to the Phoenix Coyotes' new ice arena, was one of the strong points of the job. The roofed football stadium is scheduled to open for the 2006 season and will host the 2008 Super Bowl.

"They need to have a winning team because they need

to sell tickets," O'Hagan said. "Dennis is a proven winner and that's what the Cardinals need."

The team's home fan base has dwindled to about 20,000.

Green becomes the fourth black head coach in the NFL, the most the league has had at any one time. The other three are Herman Edwards of the Jets, Marvin Lewis of the Bengals and Tony Dungy of the Colts.

Green was one of two former NFL coaches the Cardinals interviewed.

## Data: Football collisions similar to vehicle crashes

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP) - Football players were struck in the head 30 to 50 times per game and regularly endured blows similar to those experienced in car crashes, according to a Virginia Tech study that fitted players' helmets with the same kinds of sensors that trigger auto air bags.

University researchers are compiling a database of blows to the head their starting players endured this year, with plans to study how much trauma the brain can take. The study adds to a growing body of research into concussions, the blows to the head that helped end the careers of quarterbacks Troy Aikman of the Dallas Cowboys and Steve Young of the San Francisco 49ers, among others.

The data so far surprised team physician P. Gunnar Brolinson, who said he didn't realize players were absorbing so many serious hits, especially since only about five came off the sidelines this season with concussions.

"There are probably factors that we don't fully understand that make players better able to withstand higher accelerations (football hits) than other people," he said.

It's possible that some players can withstand stronger blows because they have stronger neck and shoulder muscles or that they're simply more robust genetically than others, Brolinson said.

The researchers recorded 3,312 hits during 35 practices and 10 games this season, rotating eight specially fitted helmets among 38 players.

Project leader Stefan Duma said offensive linemen endured the most hits, followed by defensive linemen, running backs, linebackers, wide receivers and defensive backs. Quarterbacks recorded the fewest hits.

"If you ask somebody what kind of head injury are you going to worry about, every-

body thinks of the receiver running down the sideline getting popped by the safety," Duma said. "But to me, the interesting part is going to be these lower speed but high frequency hits we're seeing on the (offensive and defensive) line. The fact that these players are getting headaches all the time after every game, there's something going on there."

Duma, an engineer who specializes in car crashes and safety equipment, plans to use the data to improve protective gear for players. The data also could help researchers understand and prevent concussions, a common condition in college football that can be hard to diagnose.

The helmets measure hits in multiples of the force of gravity. Half of the hits recorded this season were greater than 30 Gs, Duma said. The hardest hits measured more than 130 Gs.

"An impact of 120 Gs would be like a severe car accident, which you could survive if you were wearing a seat belt," Duma said.

Duma said Tech plans to expand the program using more helmets next year. With enough monitoring, he said, medical staffs should be able to reduce football concussions by accurately predicting the number and degree of blows a player can handle.

The monitoring helmets were developed by SIMBEX, a New Hampshire company that develops safety equipment. The system transmits the angle and severity of impacts from the helmets to a laptop Duma monitors from the sidelines.

SIMBEX founder and owner Rick Greenwald said his company will begin selling the monitoring system this year. Equipping a team of 50 to 75 players would cost \$165,000 to \$195,000, Greenwald said.

## Law Firm of Timothy C. Williams

ATTORNEY AT LAW



TIMOTHY C. WILLIAMS

Timothy Williams is a member of the Nevada & Illinois State Bar, practicing primarily in personal injury cases.

### EMPHASIS ON PERSONAL INJURY CASES

- Automobile Accidents
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Wrongful Death
- Dog Bites
- Pedestrian & Other Bodily Injuries

**892-0000**

844 E. Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Neither the State Bar of Nevada nor any agency of the State Bar has certified any lawyer identified here as a specialist or expert. Anyone considering a lawyer should independently investigate the lawyer's credentials and ability.