

Gavaskar's picks of all time great cricketers

By Sunil Sarpal



Sunil Manohar Gavaskar the last word in cricket

India is a cricket crazy country and cricket is considered a religion here. The cricket stars are idolized and worshipped in India. Stadia chant the names of Sachin, Mahi and Virat whenever they appear on the ground. People just go crazy to witness the exploits of their stars. The followers derive some kind of energy to live their lives watching their idols.

Recently, in an interview, **Sunil Gavaskar** was asked to name three players who impressed him the most in life. Gavaskar named the following players :-



Sir Garfield Sobers

1) According to **Gavaskar**, first comes **Sir Garfield Sobers**. A SouthPaw, he could bowl spin and pace in equal measure. He could don the gloves behind the stumps too. Sobers was exceptionally athletic hence a smart fielder. He was a treat to watch with the bat.

2) **Gavaskar** rated **GR Vishwanath** as second in ranking. Vishu during his playing days scored centuries on difficult wickets. Gavaskar rates Vishu a much better batsman than him.



Kapil Dev and GR Vishwanath

3) Third in the ranking is **Kapil Dev**. Gavaskar opines that Kapil was a genuine swing bowler and could win matches of his own single handedly. He was a talented batsman too in attacking mode. He could win matches as a batsman too. Kapil was an extraordinary athlete and his fielding was of a very high class. In his illustrious career, he never missed a match due to injury. He was the India captain in 1983 when India lifted the One- day-cup.

Sunil Manohar Gavaskar has been a street smart cricketer, commentator and expert. His views are unbiased and should not be taken in a lighter vein. His cricketing assessment and class is unparalleled. He is an astute student of the game of cricket and a cricketing school unto himself.

This interview suggests that these three past cricketers need be given more responsibility either to run the cricket

academies or impart their valuable knowledge to budding cricketers thru lectures etc.

One can take a cue from the **Dennis Lillee** run **MRF Pace Academy**. This academy trains fast bowlers under the watchful eye of Aussie legend **Dennis Lillee**. MRF has produced a record number of International bowlers.

Recently, **Afghanistan** has performed exceptionally well in the just concluded ICC Trophy. Afghanistan has been able to do so because India's ex cricketer **Ajay Jadeja** is their coach.

The above three players were Gavaskar's picks. What are yours? Post your picks in the comment box below.