

PERSONAL NEWS

hockey. A keen student of the game of cricket from age of 10 onwards, he had mastered the rules and watched the players closely. He was one of the founder-members of the Mysore Gymkhana and obtained a high rank in the umpire's examination of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA). He was appointed a member of the First All-India Panel of Twelve Cricket Umpires in 1946 by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Between 1946 and 1956, Rau umpired eight Ranji Trophy matches and two of visiting teams, Marylebone Cricket Club – Maharashtra (1951) at Poona and New Zealand – South zone (1955) at Bangalore. He had umpired the top Indian cricket players of his time, and had won their admiration and respect. KSCA elected Rau as an Honorary

Life Member during the Golden Jubilee in 1984. He also gave a valedictory speech.

Rau wrote numerous articles and obituary notes on cricket players of Mysore (later Karnataka). He resigned from the BCCI panel of umpires after he joined to serve the Government of India. If this had not happened, Rau would have certainly been on the elite panel of umpires of the International Cricket Council. Cricket is a gentleman's game and it refined Rau's dignity and equanimity.

Rau was a walking encyclopedia and had systematically built an excellent library and maintained the family archive. Every time I visited Mysore, I made it a point to meet him. He always saw the guests off, walking up to the

gate. During the past two years he had lost his eyesight. His sense of hearing was good. He repeatedly asked to hear Ratan Mohan Sharma's recording of raga Yaman, which I had introduced to him. Although he could not tell what was being fed to him, he retained the taste of coffee till the end. When he was told the common names of the vegetables fed to him, he would whisper their scientific names (Latin names). He was a botanist till the end.

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Erratum

Elinor Ostrom (1933–2012)

Harini Nagendra

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The first sentence in the first para should read: Elinor Ostrom, the only woman to receive a Nobel Prize in Economics (in 2009), passed away on 12 June 2012, after a short and intense battle with 'pancreatic' cancer *instead of* 'prostate' cancer. We thank Dr S. Ramanan and Dr Vikas Jain for bringing the error to our notice.