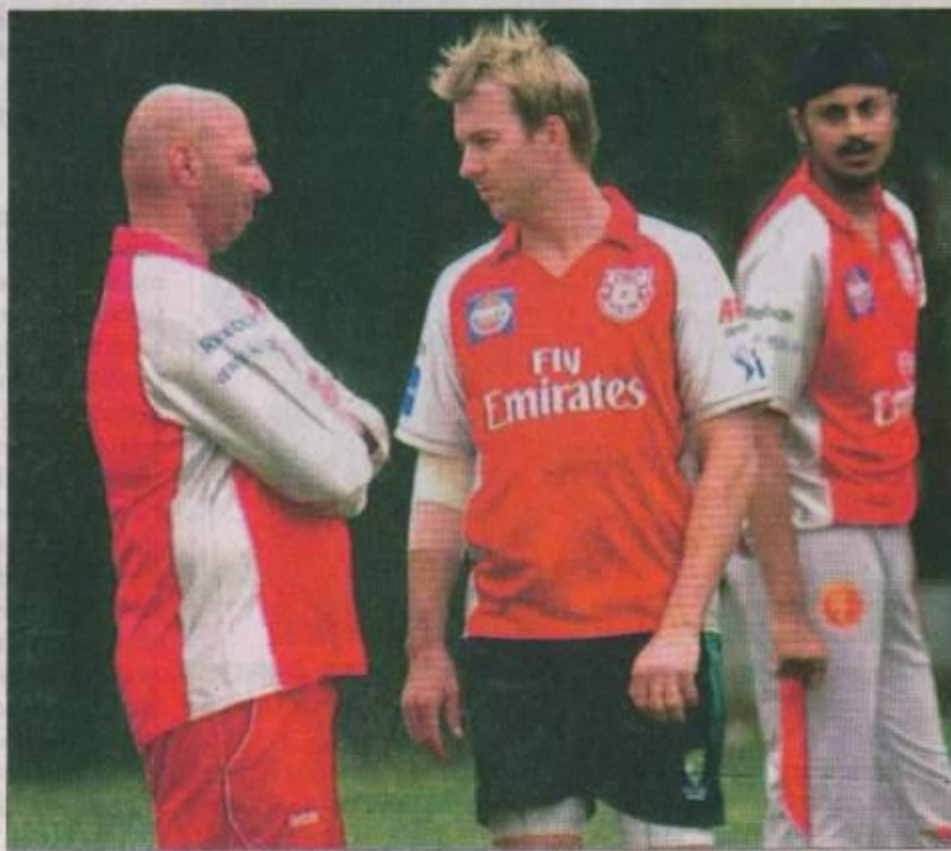


WITH the Indian Premier League (IPL) back in India for the third season, the smiles are back on the faces of franchisees and they are expecting high ticket sales this time. "The sales of the tickets are better than the first season but definitely we want more and more spectators to come and cheer for their home team. I guess as we approach the match dates, more response from the fans will come to the fore," said Anil Srivatsa, CEO, Kings XI Punjab.

In order to promote the sale of tickets, Kings XI Punjab is leaving no stones unturned and outdoor hoardings, radio shows and advertisements are some of the tactics employed by the team. "When the Indian team plays in Mohali then there is tremendous response from the people and they come in large numbers to motivate the players. Since, Mohali is their home team and most of the players are from in and around the city we are hoping that more and more people will come forward and cheer for their team this time,"



Australian and Kings XI Punjab speedster Brett Lee talks to team physio Patrick Farhat during a practice session at the PCA Stadium in Mohali

he added.

Shrugging off injury concerns, he said that every team is coping up with the same problem. "Every team has injury concerns but we have other talented players as back up," he said while addressing media.

With Kings XI Punjab teaming up with Mountain Dew in IPL-III, the fans will get a chance to meet players and see them in action if they win a competition started by them. As many as 11 winners will be selected from amongst all the winners on the basis of a certain selection process, who will then get to play 5-over-a-side cricket match with the KXIP team in Dharmashala. Moreover, the winners will also get complimentary tickets to IPL matches involving KXIP, branded merchandise, 'Meet & Greet' with the players.

Meanwhile, Kings XI team members Brett Lee, Piyush Chawla, Irfan Pathan, Ravi Bopara, Romesh Powar reached Chandigarh on Wednesday. They hit the practice nets along with Punjab domestic players Reetinder Sodhi, VRV Singh, Karan Goel, Bipul Sharma, Amanpreet Singh and Love Abilish at the PCA stadium in Mohali.