Reuter.

Imran said

practice.

16

20

LAHORE . Feb 4 :

Pakistan are one

of the most suc-

cessful sides in

one day cricket,

Khan says they go into the

World Cup cruelly under-

prepared for the hard, bouncy

pitches of Australia, reports

happen to have the worst

preparation for the World Cup

compared with Australia.

England, West Indies and

India. All the major teams have

been better prepared than us".

one-day internationals at

home against West Indies, two

of which they lost, and a Test

and limited-overs series

against lowly-rated Sri Lanka

in recent months, Pakistan

are short of top-flight match

rated Pakistan's chances of

winning the nine-nation tour-

nament as "reasonable", even

with doubts about injured bat-

ting star Javed Miandad being

favourites and I think the rea-

son is not that we are short of

talent. We will probably be the

most talented team in the

World Cup," he said in an in-

terview before the side left for

Australia's cri

cketers went in

pursuit of the last

World Cup on the

Indian sub continent in 1987,

they got up at six in the

morning to train and gave up

alcohol and Chinese food 48

hours before each match.

fitness and diet paid off. Allan

Border's Australian outsiders

triumphantly lifted the trophy

in front of 95,000 spectators

on a memorable day in

short-odds favourities, opening

their Cup defence as a signifi-

cantly better side whose pre-

eminence is built on a com-

prehensive understanding of

limited overs cricket orches-

trated by a captain who, after

This time Australia are

The disciplined approach to

I do not think that we are

able to join the squad.

Despite that, Imran said he

Having played only three

"It is unfortunate that we

but captain Imran

Jones, Moody batter Indian attack

34, reached his 50 in a patient

164 minutes and his cen-

tury, his 10th in Test company.

Jones was unconquered with

150, compiled in 395 minutes,

including 14 sparkling fours

came when he had made 73,

but left-arm spinner

Venkatapathy Raju spilled a

waist-high catch off his own

two years, completed a dream comeback, following his first

Moody, in his first Test for

The one chance for India

When Border declared,

in 291 minutes.

and a six.

bowling.

PERTH, Australia. Feb 4: Flamboyant Dean Jones and hard-hitting Tom Moody battered the Indian attack

today, reports AFP. Both completed centuries during a 173-run fourthwicket partnership in 186 minutes, enabling captain Allan Border to close Australia's second innings at 367 for six and leave India with an unenviable victory target of 442 in 429

on the fourth day of the fifth

Test at the WACA Ground here

minutes. But at stumps the tourists were fighting bravely, having made 55 without loss in 70 minutes from 18 overs. Najvot Sidhu was unbeaten with 24 and Krish Srikkanth had made

The task of making another 387 runs in 360 minutes on the final day on Wednesday is a daunting one, even on a pitch still playing well. But the openers' disciplined approach must at least give the side some hope of ending a trying tour with an honourable draw.

The vintage stroke making by the Australian side's two most aggressive batsmen displayed just the sort of form to delight Border only two and a half weeks before Australia start the defence of their World Cup one-day crown.

It was just the tonic Australia needed after a season of mixed form with the bat by both Jones and Moody.

They came together with the home team at 113 for three, holding a not altogether secure lead of 187.

Jones, who had resumed on

CENTURIONS BOTH: Dean Jones (L) and Tom Moody

just over three hours. His chanceless knock, his second Test century, included nine fours and a five.

Australia suffered a minicollapse when Moody, lan Healy (7) and Merv Hughes (11) were all dismissed in the space of 29 runs.

innings 50 with a fluent 101 in rounder, who the previous day became only the second player in history to reach 400 wickets in Tests.

minutes off a ragged attack

before Border closed the in-

distinguished days for the

was fast bowler Kapil Dev's

achievement in taking one

more scalp, that of Moody, to

boost his series aggregate to

abroad, beating his tally of 24

in a six-Test series in Pakistan

in the 1982-83 season. It was just another feather

in the cap of the great all-

This is his best in a series

Indian bowlers.

It was not one of the more

However, one bright spot

Australia's form batsman of the series. David Boon, added only three more runs to his overnight score to make 38 before falling to paceman Manoj Prabhakar.

"Today I was very cool. I

said to myself: If I don't do it

today. I will tomorrow, or one

happy being an Indian. It is

known for India never to pro-

duce fast bowlers. For an

Indian fast bowler to take 400

wickets is a great achieve-

"I am very proud and very

of these days."

in each of the last three Tests, at an average of 79.42, and must have good prospects of winning the major award of the series.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard at stimps on the fourth day of the fifth Test between Australia and India at the WACA Ground here

Tuesday. AUSTRALIA: 1st innings 346 (Boon 107, Border 59, Moody 50. Prabhakar 5-101.

Srinath 2-69, Kapil Dev 2 103). Second innings: Phillips c Kapil Dev b

Srinath Taylor lbw Kapil Dev Boon c Kapil Dev b Prabhakar Jones not out Moody c More b Kapil Healy c More b Raju Hughes c Tendulkar b Srinath Border not out

Extras: 4 lb. 6 nb) 10 Total: (for six wkts) Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-31, 3-113, 4-286, 5-298, 6-315. Bowling: Kapil Dev Prabhakar Srinath 29.3 121

INDIA: 1st innings 272 (Tendulkar 114, More 43, Whitney 4-68, Hughes 4-82). Second innings: Sidhu

not out Srikkanth not out Extras: 4lb. 1nb) Total (no wkts) Bowling: McDermott Hughes

Pakistan's ability to acclimatise to Australian pitches in three weeks before their first 27

match against West Indies in Melbourne on February .23 could prove crucial.

"Our techniques are based on low bounce wickets and when the ball bounces we struggle a little bit. Our batsmen struggle and our bowlers struggle. We do not know how to bowl on a bouncing wicket", the 39-year-old captain said.

After cancelling an autumn tour of India for political reasons, Pakistan had hopeed to fit in a short trip to South Africa before the World Cup to gain a taste of Australian-style

task would be much tougher to his team was without Miandad. Pakistan's most accomplished batsman, who suffered a recurrence of a chronic back injury while fielding during a training camp in Lahore.

After a miserable spell with the bat, Miandad had only just returned to top form with an unbeaten 115 in a one-dayer

against Sri Lanka at Hyderabad. Chief selector Javed Burki satd Miandad could still play if he recovered in time, but the 34-year-old batsman was not among the 15 names in the



DEADLY DUO: Waseem Akram (L) and Wagar Younis

Imran laments poor preparation

conditions. Most of their Pakistan squad. One man will matches are in Australia. But the Springboks turned

them down, sticking to a pledge to offer India the first tour following the republic's return to world cricket. Imran acknowledged his be dropped before the World Cup begins.

Without Miandad, the side is very thin on experience and really needed his consummate presence at number three to anchor the batting, Imran said.

and is a much-improved per-

former since he took 18 in the

1987 tournament, while Peter

Taylor provides balance with

Fielding is where Border's

side excel. Jones. McDermott

and Moody have marvellous

throwing arms, a real asset on

Australia's big outfields, while

Border and the Waughs regu-

larly hit the stumps from

highly controlled off-spin.

Much depends on the performance of the flery pace quartet of Wastm Akram Wagar Younis, Aagib Javed and Saleem Jaffer. Two slow bowlers, leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed and off-spinner Akram Raza, are also included in the squad.

Wastm and Wagar have repeatedly demonstrated themselves capable of destroying an innings with some of the swiftest bowling in cricket to-

And Aaqib came of age at the Sharjah Cup last October when he took seven Indian wickets for 37 runs, including a hat-trick, to clinch the triangular championship for

Pakistan. With Miandad doubtful, Saltm Maltk takes over as vicecaptain and joins imran and Rameez Raja as the most ex-

perienced batsmen. Two youngsters, Zahid Fazal, 18, and Inzamamul Haq, 21, are regarded as among the most promising batting discoveries in recent years. Inzamamul scored two consecutive centuries against Sri Lanka in the one-day series.

Both known as fine strikers of the rising ball, they have been tried out this season as openers with Rameez, who played well against both West Indies and Srl Lanka.

Completing the batting is linran, who has been in all four previous World Cups and can be relied on to play the role of middle-order saviour or slogger as the occasion

Border's boys look the best bets Boon ended the series with But Jones and Border (20 Reiffel not out) cracked 52 runs in 41 556 runs, including centuries Whitney Hadlee eggs Kapil on towards 432 PERTH Australia. must be the envy of many of fast bowler Craig McDermott. catch in India during a warm their opponents, comprising 1 cb 4 : When who was 124 one-day wickets up session.

reports Reuter.

Calcutta.

Australia.

PERTH, Australia, Feb 4: Kapil Dev received a congratulatory fax from Sir Richard

ladlee on Monday after becoming the second cricketer to achieve 400 Test wickets, and then pledged to go on and break the New Zealand bowler's record 431 Test victims, reports Reuter.

Sitting alongside Sunil Gavaskar, the other great Indian cricketer of recent times who is the highest run scorer in Test history, and clutching a champagne glass. Kapil added: "I want to do it while Sunil is still number

"For us both to be number one together would be a great achievement by the Indian people."

Hadlee's fax, signed "paddles", included the encouragement: "Well done, go for 432." In a radio interview, the re-

tired New Zealander said it was only a matter of time before Kapil eclipsed his record. "There is no question he'll pass me," added Hadlee.

think he is a true champion." And, referring Englishman Fred Trueman's famous comment on passing 300 wickets that he felt "bloody tired," Hadlee added: "I think he'll be very tired as

he's played a lot more tests and bowled a lot more balls than me."

It is two years to the day since Hadlee reached 400 in Christchurch, New Zealand.

His victim that day, Sanjay Manjrekar, was among the crowd of Indian fielders who mobbed Kapil when umpire Tony Crafter gave Mark Taylor





ELITE CLUB MATES: Hadlee(L) and Kapil Dev

out leg before late on the third day of the fifth Test on Kapil, now 33, received a Monday

It had been 29 overs and three balls since he dismissed Allan Border for his 399th victim and Kapil, who had bowled poorly for the rest of the weekend, admitted: "I was a little conscious of it."

The modest, unassuming standing ovation form the Perth crowd and waved delightedly to all parts of the ground several times. He confessed, however, to a little sadness at not reaching the landmark in India.

"In my heart I said thanks

for everything. I thought of my family. If I reach 500 wickets. I want them to be there."

His team-mates presented him with cuddly toy female kangaroo with the message "to our dear mate Kapil on his 400th wicket" written in felt tip on her chest. Picked for the Test team

while still in his teens. Kapil's first wicket, on his debut, was Pakistan's Sadiq Mohammad in Lahore in October 1978.

Gavaskar, who took the catch in the slips, said on Monday: "If he goes on to take 432- and I am praying and hoping he does -I think his record will last longer than

mine. Gavaskar made 10,122 runs, an aggregate now being challenged by Allan Border who has 9,512.

Of Kapil's 400 victims taken at an average of 29.66. 159 have been on the flat tired brown tracks of the Indian sub-continent and Sri Lanka which Hadlee said made achievement "all the more remarkable.

In 155 Tests, Kapil has also captained India 34 times. scored 4,690 Test runs (at 30.45 with seven hundreds) and holds the record for most one-day international wickets. 217. in 181 matches. He has also scored 3,324 one-day runs and has never missed a Test through injury.

conductor. The success of Border's men was underlined early last year when they became the first team to win a one-day series in the Caribbean, by 4-1

West Indies. Border believes they can get better. The batting needs to

our middle order."

Dean Jones, who has 4,772 one-day runs at 48.20 and seven centuries, Border, Mark Waugh and his twin brother Steve, a key member of the 1987 Cup team.

They follow the current best one-day opening combination of Geoff Marsh, nine centuries, and David Boon, 432 runs at 61.71 in the recent

World Series.



TOUGH TASK MASTERS: Border(L) and Simpson

Such is the depth of closer in. Few teams will be Australia's resources that they allowed to take quick singles can afford to leave in the wings such players as Mark Taylor. one of the most prolific openers in Test cricket in the last three years, and Tom Moody. an immensely successful batsman with Worcestershire in

one-day country cricket. Leading the attack will be

Such a standard stems from coach Bobby Simpson's fielding routines and the players' willingness to work. So demanding is Simpson that Tim Zoehrer once dived into barbed wire coils to take a

to rotate the strike as Australia

Jones recalls of the 1987 triumph: "We worked harder than any team there. We were the fittest team - we were up at six in the morning for situps and catches in the hotel grounds. And We were very disciplined, no alcohol or Chinese food 48 hours before games".

Of the teams who could prove the main threat to Australia's crown, Border picks out England - "they are playing well and always do well in-oneday competitions" - and Pakistan - "they have a very good side"

Australia's biggest problem could be weight of expectation, as happened to India and Pakistan in 1987. No host team has won the World Cup and Border admits: "There is extra pressure being the home team, expectations are high. But I like playing in front of our crowds.

They have a very experienced side, five players with more than a century of appearances, and 10, injuries permitting, who were in the 1987 squad.

In their last 36 one-day internationals. Australia have lost just five times. So. can they be beaten? Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin, who has seen them at close hand during his country's recent tour, says: "They are a very good side, but you can never tell in a one-day game".

US booters delight record crowd



higan, Feb 4: The US soccer team beat the Commonwealth of Ind-ependent St-

ates 2-1 in a friendly international Sunday, but the real vic-tory was winning over more than 35,000 American sports fans, rep-orts AFP.

The crowd of 35,248 at the Pontiac Silverdome was a record for soccer in the state, and US manager Bora Milutinovic was delighted. The most important thing

that happened was that we had 35,000 fans cheering for us," he said. The win over the CIS was

less impressive, since nine of the players who started for the former Soviet Union were first-time caps. The regular starters were

busy with club commitments in Europe, which will keep them tied up until the European Championship finals in June.

We came here to evaluate players to make up the reserves of our European Cup team," CIS coach Antoli

Bysshovets said. 'Only three or four of these players will be on that team, none in the top 11."

Milutinovic said he was in the same boat. "We both have the same situation. We have to play tough," he said. "Between now and picking a team for 1994, 1 have to look at many, many

> more players The United States, not one of the powers of world football, is hosting the 1994 World Cop.

One of the innovations organizers have in mind is using indoor stadiums such as the Silverdome, if real grass

pitches can be adequately maintained.

"We couldn't be happier with Detroit or the crowd, said US goal scorer Eric Wynalda. "I'm not a good (artificial) turf player, but they would have grass for the World Cup and I'd love to come back." Byshovets was less enthusi-

"The enclosed stadiums have a smaller space, and they take away the elements, which will be foreign to all the teams which play here," he said. "They are great for the fans, and they may be the trend in the future, but there are a lot of negative factors to be looked

ing, reports Reuter.

431 Test wickets.

S Africans add spice to World Cup BRISBANE, Feb 4



South Africa's return to international cricket after a 22-year absence has added spice to a World Cup tournament that already held tre-

mendous promise, reports AP. The nine leading cricket nations in the world will playoff from Feb 22 to March 25 at venues throughout Australia and New Zealand.

In addition to the host countries and South Africa, England, Pakistan, India, the West Indies, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe will be aiming to

win places in the final at the historic Melbourne Cricket

Australia is the defending

champion and in good form. It recently defeated India and the West Indies in a triangular limited-overs tournament. Pakistan has arrived in Australia and is playing a series of warm-up matches, while

England currently is touring

New Zealand, where it already has won a Test series. The West Indies won the first two World Cups in 1975 and 1979. India won the 1983 and Australia triumphed in 1987 when the championship

was jointly hosted by India and Pakistan. For the first time, all participants will play each other. The top four teams at the end of the round-robin stage will advance to the semifinals.

The tournament opens with India facing England in Perth and Australia playing New Zealand in Auckland, both on Feb 22. South Africa makes its de-

but in a day-night match against Australia at the Sydney Cricket ground on Feb 26. The cricket world is wait-

ing to see whether the South Africans will immediately be competitive. Captain Kepler Wessels,

who used to play Test cricket for Australia, feels the South Africans have a solid, well-balanced squad, but must quickly adapt to the demands of international competition. "The standard will be very

high and we will have to bridge the gap between domestic and international cricket very quickly," Wessels said. Bacher said the South

Africans had realistic expecta-"We cannot expect to be world-beaters overnight after such a long time in isolation,"

he said.

There was controversy surrounding the players chosen in the South African squad. The World Cup squad includes only eight of the 14 players he went

known players - opening batsman Jimmy Cook, 38, and all-arounder and former captain Clive Rice, 42. One veteran who earned a

to India. Two players left off

the World Cup squad are

among the country's best

spot was 40-year-old spin bowler Omar Henry, the only black player in the squad. Potential stars in the South

African team include pace

bowler Alan Donald and batsman Adrian Kuiper. Pakistan captain Imran Khan said his team was looking forward to the challenge of fac-

"I'm glad that South Africa is playing in the World Cup," lmran said

ing South Africa in the tour-

"I think the more countries that come into cricket the better. It gets monotonous playing the same countries

Pakistan is seen as the major challenger to defending champion Australia.

over and over again."

It boasts a well-balanced team that will be boosted by the return of star batsman Javed Miandad, who has recovered from a back injury.

Young batsman Inzaman Ul-Haq and flery pace bowler Waqar Younis are expected to be among the stars of the Pakistan team.

"In terms of pace, you won't find many quicker than Waqar," Imran said. "He is probably quicker than anyone who will play in the World Cup, and he has penetration."

England has looked sharp during its tour of New Zealand. Captain Graham Gooch has, been angered by suggestions the New Zealand tour is merely a warm-up for the World Cup.

"I'm not interested in warming up for the World Cup. I'm only interested in winning matches," said the combative Gooch. The England team is a veritable United Nations squad. It

South Africa, one from Zimbabwe, one born in Hong Kong and two from the Caribbean. Its' hopes will rest on Zimbabwe-born batsman Graeme Hick rediscovering his

features two players born in

from and on the wiles of street-wise spin bowler Phil Tufnell and penetrative paceman Phillip DeFreitas. The West Indies are something of an enigma. A team in transition, the Caribbean cava-

liers will miss the aggression

of veteran batsman Viv Richards, but still boast plenty of power. The speed of bowlers Curtly Ambrose, Carl Hooper, Anderson Cummings and Patrick Patterson means it would be unwise to write the West

recent poor form. New Zealand's challenge depends largely on the form of star batsman and captain Martin Crowe, while Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe are likely to lack the strength to mount serious campaigns.

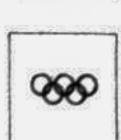
Indies off, even in light of their

Still, Sri Lanka boasts a skilled and belligerent batsman in Aravinda de Silva, while Zimbabwe has an energetic batsman and boisterous wicket keeper in David Houindia has the players of the

ability to pose a threat, but key men like opener Krish Srikkanth and captain Mohammad Azharuddin have struggled Down Under. Much will depend on the

scintillating skills of 18-yearold batsman Sachin Tendulkar, who has plundered two centuries in the Test series

Big blows to Berlin's bid



BERLIN, Feb 4: A financial scandal Stars embroiled in a squabble over money, and a city budget deficit that already looks like a longdistance telephone number.

Berlin may be famed for its sweet climate and "schnauze." the resilient humour of its citi-But it's clearly going to take more than a few quips to clear

and a climate thick with recrimination as the city struggles to save its campaign to host the 2000 Olympics, reports AFP. As the finishing touches were being applied to the Albertville Winter Games,

steer attention away from controversy. Dangling a two-year, million-dollar contract, it appointed Axel Nawrocki, a 47year-old industrialist, to head Olympia GMBH, the company

Berlin sought Monday to get its

bid back on the tracks and

set up to promote the bid. He succeeds Lutz Gruettke, forced to resign last September after it emerged he had singed away an exclusive contract with an advertising

agency owned by a friend.

Police are investigating. Lured away from a top job in the programme to privatise the eastern German economy. Nowrocki will be paid 485,000 dollars per year.

His first problem will be to

clear the storm surrounding money paid to former swimming star Michael Gross to promote the Berlin bid. Gross, a triple Olympic gold medallist and five-times world champion dubbed 'the

Albatross' for his gigantic armspan, receives almost 2,000 dollars a day to run an ambassadors' committee that supports the campaign. Its members include tennis

pole-vaulter Sergei Bubka and Spanish tenor Placido But Gross reward has already led to one of Germany's best loved atheltes angrily

star Steffi Graf, Ukrainian

Ulrike Nasse-Mefarth, the double Olympic high jump champion in 1972 and 1984. announced on Monday she would no longer be an Olympic envoy if they are going to use the promotion budget, which isn't enormous, in such a

quitting the panel.

thoughtless way. She said the money Gross was paid bore no relation to the duties he and the other ambassadors, who gave their services for nothing, carried

comparing his fee to that of a lawyer or an industrial consul-Gross is studying for a doctorate and insists he has no

But Gross hit back. "I'm

worth every penny," he said,

other income than what he receives from the city. "Am I supposed to die of hunger on a student grant?" he

Adding to Berlin's problems is a debt mountain that is set to jump from 15 billion dollars to 28 billion over the next three years, as the city rebuilds decrepit houses and rotting transport links.

How much extra help will

be forthcoming if Berlin wins the Olympic contest is a good question. Some of the western states in Germany's federal structure are already complaining bitterly about the flow of aid to the former capital of Prussia.

Kapil dreaded 399! NEW DELHI, Feb 4: Indian fast bowler Kapil Dev, only the second player to take 400 Test wickets, feared getting stuck on 399, his wife Romi was quoted on Tuesday as say

"In more private moments, Kapil would reveal that he had just one fear — that of getting stuck at 399 when the series got over", she told the Pioneer newspaper a day after her husband took his 400th wicket in the fifth and final Test against Australia. "After all, (New Zealand's) Sir Richard Hadlee had to wait

seven months while moving from 399 to 400. And in Kapil's case the watt could have been for almost a year, for that's when the next series is due," Romi Dev said. "The target of 400 wickets is what has been uppermost in his mind. He has talked very little about other things",

Kapil is very ambitious and his level of motivation is extraordinary. He puts in 110 per cent to reach the targets he has set for himself. * He has now set his sights on breaking Hadlee's record of

reporters in Perth after taking number 400. Former Indian captain Suntl Gavaskar is Test cricket's leading run-maker and Kapil said he wanted Indians to be world record holders at batting and bowling at the same time. Romt Dev, in a full page article in the Pioneer devoted

to a feat celebrated on the front pages of India's main

English-language papers said Dev was entirely devoted to

"I want to do it while Sunil is still number one". Dev told

cricket and his unfulfilled ambittions in the game. "The moment he cherishes most is the time India won the World Cup in 1983. But today if you ask him, he will say: Of course that was great. But we have more goals to achieve".

233 one-day internationals. directs tactics like a master and followed it recently with their third successive World Series title, against India and

improve," he says. "I would like to see more partnerships put together. I'm concerned about

It is a middle-order that