

### Miandad joins Cup squad

KARACHI, Feb 12: Pakistan's master batsman Javed Miandad left here late Tuesday to join Pakistan's cricket squad for the World Cup, reports AP.

"I am not 100 per cent fit but I am better than before," he said before leaving for Singapore en route to Australia.

He was confident that he would be fully fit in a fortnight. "Recovery in Australia will be much faster," he said.

Miandad, 35, who has more than 8,000 runs in Test cricket and 6,011 runs in one-day internationals to his credit, was dropped from the squad because of back problems which had troubled him since the Sharjah Cup last summer.

He missed two of the three one-day internationals against the West Indians in December, and an injury sustained during the training camp in Lahore had forced him to delay his departure for the World Cup.

Chairman of the Selection Committee Javed Burki said, "Miandad is a very important player as far as Pakistan's strategy for good performance in the World Cup is concerned."

Miandad, who went through a fitness test, had earlier said that before leaving for Australia he wanted to "make sure to everybody that I am fully fit, I don't want to shoulder responsibility for the fitness."

Cricket observers here said his inclusion in the team would be a "tremendous morale booster."

Skipper Imran Khan, whose side has had problems in warm-up matches, has been insisting that replacements have plenty of practice before the Cup competition starts on February 22.

### S Africans win warm-up tie

ADELAIDE, Feb 12: Opaer Andrew Hudson hit an aggressive 81 Wednesday to lead South Africa to a 45-run victory over an Australian Combined cricket team at the Adelaide Oval, reports AP.

After making 224 for seven from its 50 overs, the South African team restricted the Combined side to 179 for nine.

The win was South Africa's first on its pre-World Cup tour of Australia.

It earlier had lost to Western Australia and had a match against the Combined team, comprising players from South Australia and the Australian Cricket Academy, rained out on Tuesday.

Darren Webber top-scored for the locals with an entertaining 78 not out, which included three sixes off left-arm spin bowler Omar Henry.

Medium-pace Brian McMillan picked up three wickets for South Africa, while new ball pair Richard Snell and Merrycy Pringle also bowled tightly.

The highlights of the South African innings were the 81 from opener Hudson and 63 from veteran Peter Kirsten.

Hudson's innings included six fours and a six off 154 balls.

Former South African captain Kirsten, 36, also had a solid workout, striking runs off 101 balls.

Mark Rushmore also impressed for the tourists, scoring 34 off 25 balls.

South Africa plays their fourth official one-day international since being reinstated to world cricket when they face Pakistan in Canberra on Saturday.

They open their World Cup campaign on Feb 26 when it plays Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Scores: South Africa 224-7 (Andrew Hudson 81). Combined XI 179-9 (Darren Webber 78 not out). South Africa won by 45 runs.

### Saathi, Tafazzal win Jabbar titles

Saathi maintained her giant-killing run in the Engineer M A Jabbar memorial tennis tournament when she shocked national champion Rina in the final of the women's singles event at the Engineers' Club courts yesterday.



Shirin Akhter of BJMC sails over the 1.45m mark to claim the high jump gold in the nationals at the Army Stadium yesterday.

## Railway run over Udity

Sports Reporter

League leaders Udity Club suffered their first defeat in this year's Milnars First Division cricket league when they were run over by unfancied Bangladesh Railway at the Mirpur Pallabi ground yesterday, losing by three runs.

But while Udity took time to let the result sink in, their closest contenders for the title Victoria Sporting Club, thanks to the efforts and experience of two veterans — former national players Roqibul Hassan and Mainul Haq Mainu — posted a regulation victory against traditional rivals Dhaka Wanderers at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

The results on the day meant Udity, who had won the crucial tie against Victory Feb 8, are now tied on 16 points each with eight wins from nine games each.

Winning the toss, Udity batted first to collect 191 for seven wickets from 45 overs, with in-form opening batsman Anup top scoring with 54 inclusive of seven fours. The other opener, Sajid, and Durjoy were the other notable contributors with 29 and 21 respectively. Titu bowled su-

perly to take two for 14 from nine overs. Sadhan had figures of two for 27.

Needing 193 for an upset victory, Railway soon ran into trouble with opener Alam departing for one. Opener Sahir then teamed up with Apu and Afzal to keep the challenge alive. Sahir scored an impressive 43 with the help of six fours. Apu scored 16 and Afzal made a useful 31 but Pallab and Azam left cheaply to revive the chances of an expected Udity victory.

But veteran Railway skipper Selim was not to be daunted by these setbacks. Like a bull in a china shop, the medium-paceer tore apart the Udity bowling with a swashbuckling unbeaten knock of 67. He played only 57 balls and hit nine fours and two sixes. He was at the kill along with Titu, who scored seven, when perhaps the most sensational match of the Milnars First Division league was over with Railway achieving their victory target of 192 in the penultimate over.

**VICTORIA WIN**  
At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, fancied Victoria outplayed Wanderers Club by 71 runs.

**TODAY'S MATCH**  
Dima vs Eskaton (Pallabi)

## Gooch says his boys can win it

DUNEDIN, New Zealand, Feb 12: England can win the World Cup cricket title if it plays up to its potential, captain Graham Gooch said Wednesday, reports AP.

"I feel we've got a good all-round side," Gooch said. "We've got plenty of depth in batting, we've variety of bowling and we can field."

England faces India in its World Cup opener in Perth on Feb 22. It continues its warm-up for the tournament with one-day matches against New Zealand later Wednesday and on Saturday.

England never has won the World Cup, despite hosting the event three times.

"One-day cricket can be hit and miss, depending on how you play," Gooch said.

"We've got the ability, and with the flexibility of the different players we've got cover for every position."

"But it's not as easy as that. You've got to play well. And if we play well we'll give anyone a good game."

Gooch said England's initial target was to make the semifinals of the nine-nation championship, which will be jointly hosted by Australia and New Zealand.

"Our aim is to win five or six matches out of the eight to get into the semifinals," he said.

## Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Rayer Bazar and Spradaegles won in yesterday's Rank-Xerox Second Division cricket league yesterday.

Rayer Bazar defeated Nabin Sangha by six wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Put into bat, Nabin Sangha made 158 for seven wickets from their quota of 35 overs.

Opener Ashiqur Rahman with a fine 49 and Biswajit Niogi with an unbeaten 30 put Rayer Bazar on the victory course.

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, Spradaegles knocked off Amarjoti by 51 runs.

Spradaegles elected to bat first and amassed 223 for seven wickets from their quota of 35 overs with opener Lito cranking a whirlwind 84.

Amarjoti, in their turn, were all out for 173 with Jaber ranging a lone battle with 39.

## Lankans promise shocks

MELBOURNE, Feb 12: Sri Lanka cricket captain Aravinda de Silva predicted Wednesday that his team could upset some of its better-credentialed rivals and qualify for the semifinals of the World Cup tournament, reports AP.

"It all depends on our batsmen," De Silva said after the Sri Lankan team flew into Australia to conclude its preparation for the nine-nation limited-overs tournament.

"We have to play a few games and see how we adjust to the conditions, but our chances will depend entirely on our batting."

"If our batting goes well we have a very good chance of qualifying for the semifinals."

The Sri Lankans arrived a day late following flight delays in Colombo and will have little time for rest. They are due to play India in a practice match on Thursday.

De Silva said a recent three-Test series against Pakistan and two weeks of practice at home had put his team in a

good position to play well in the World Cup, which begins Feb 22.

Sri Lanka will play its first game of the World Cup in New Zealand, opening its campaign against Zimbabwe in New Plymouth on Feb 23.

Sri Lanka has played a total of 119 international limited-overs matches, winning only 25. They are 2-15-1 in previous World Cup matches.

Their hopes in the Cup depend largely on De Silva, a skillful right-handed batsman who also is a useful right-arm off-spin bowler.

He hits the ball with tremendous power and has averaged 29.5 in one-day internationals.

The Sri Lankan squad is: Aravinda de Silva (captain), Asanka Gurusinha (vice-captain), Arjuna Ranatunga, Ramesh Ratnayake, Roshan Mahanama, Don Anurasiri, Athula Samarasekera, Hashan Tilakaratne, Chamapaka Ramanayake, Sanath Jayasuriya, Chandika Hathurusinghe, Kapila Wijegunewardena, Pramodaya Wickremasinghe and Ruwan Kalpage.

## England scamper past Kiwis

DUNEDIN, New Zealand, Feb 12: England's cricketers squeezed home with five balls and three wickets to spare to beat New Zealand in a 50-overs match on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

After being set 187 to win on a difficult Dunedin wicket, England were on the ropes at 108 for five after losing the key wickets of Ian Botham and Alec Stewart within three balls.

But their depth of batting won them the match, with Hong Kong-born all-rounder Dermot Reeve scoring 31 not out, Chris Lewis 18 and Derek Pringle 14 not out.

The match was the second of three one-day internationals against New Zealand. England have now won the series 2-0, with a third match to be played in Christchurch on Saturday.

England captain Graham Gooch said after the match: "I was pleased we managed to pull through in a tight game. It showed that we have a bit of strength and depth in batting."

New Zealand's batsmen, hemmed in by tight bowling from Chris Lewis and Derek Pringle, failed to score quickly in the first 15 overs — when all but two fielders must be within a 30-metre circle — and were 42 for two when fielders were allowed to scatter around the field.

Veteran all-rounder Ian Botham, playing in his 100th one-day international — bowled New Zealand opener Andrew Jones. But local hero Ken Rutherford and Chris Harris pulled New Zealand back into the game with a 74-run partnership.

Rutherford's 52, the only half-century of the match, won him the man-of-the-match award.

England's normally tight fielding slipped at Carisbrook Park, with Phil Tufnell, Richard Illingworth and wicketkeeper Alec Stewart all dropping catches.

England began more aggressively, but lost opener Graeme Hick for just seven with 21 runs on the board. Hick's form at an international level has continued poor in New Zealand after a disastrous start in England last summer.

Gooch was next to fall when Gavin Larsen, bowling accurate medium pace, had him caught behind the wicket for 24. The Wellington captain claimed the wicket of Robin Smith nine runs later.

Part-time bowler Rod Latham, normally an opening bat, removed Botham, for 28 and bowled Stewart two balls later for a duck.

At the other end Allan Lamb held the innings together before Latham trapped him leg before wicket for 40 to return figures of three for 25 from eight overs.

Falling behind the required run rate, England needed 33 runs from the last five overs. Chris Lewis skied a ball to mark Greatbatch before Pringle and Reeve, playing calmly while 8,000 spectators roared New Zealand on, saw the game out.

Reeve ended the match with a four past mid-on from the last over of the day to give England victory and maintain an unbeaten tour record.

### SCOREBOARD

**NEW ZEALAND:** Innings: Latham run out 12, Jones b Botham 20, Greatbatch c Stewart b Reeve 10, Crowe c sub (Ramprakash) b Illingworth 29.

**ENGLAND:** Innings: Gooch c Smith b Larsen 24, Hick lbw b Morrison 7, Smith b Larsen 17, Lamb lbw b Latham 40, Botham c Rutherford b Latham 28, Stewart b Latham 0, Reeve not out 31, Lewis c Greatbatch b Morrison 18, Pringle not out 14, Extras: (w-7, lb-2) 9. Total (for seven wickets, 49.1 overs): 188. Fall of wickets: 1-21, 2-54, 3-63, 4-89, 5-163, 6-170, 7-180.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Pringle 10 2 31 1  
Lewis 9 0 32 1  
Reeve 8 1 19 1  
Botham 6 1 27 1  
Illingworth 9 1 33 1  
Tufnell 8 0 31 0

**ENGLAND:** Innings: Gooch c Smith b Larsen 24, Hick lbw b Morrison 7, Smith b Larsen 17, Lamb lbw b Latham 40, Botham c Rutherford b Latham 28, Stewart b Latham 0, Reeve not out 31, Lewis c Greatbatch b Morrison 18, Pringle not out 14, Extras: (w-7, lb-2) 9. Total (for seven wickets, 49.1 overs): 188. Fall of wickets: 1-21, 2-54, 3-63, 4-108, 5-108, 6-130, 7-165.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Morrison 7 0 27 2  
Su'a 8 1 35 0  
Larsen 10 1 24 2  
Cairns 6.1 0 36 0  
Harris 10 1 39 0  
Latham 8 1 25 3  
Did not bat: Illingworth, Tufnell.

Man-of-the-match: Ken Rutherford.  
Result: England won by three wickets.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	city	<b>DOWN</b>	plateau
1 Literary Alexander	37 Murray or West	1 Head writes?	22 Word before cat or city
5 In the — (certain)	38 — con carne	3 Cougar	23 Current craze
8 Word before type or turkey	41 Wrongdoing	4 Parisian summer	24 Mine output
12 Border on 13 Narrow inlet	42 Meadow sound	5 Scarecrow's lack?	25 Sharp knock
14 Wings 15 Employee record	45 Lively dance	6 Yorkshire river	26 Runner Sebastian
17 Hoarfrost	46 He gets dollars for quarters	7 Wander about	27 By way of 28 Goal
18 R.R. info	48 Role for Luise Rainer	8 Bridge player's need	29 Famous general
19 Tall tale	49 Psychologist's concern	9 Fetid fabric	31 Farm pen
20 Calculating snake?	50 Vain	10 Rich one	34 Whitney or Wallach
21 Weight unit	51 Proceed on one's way	11 Bambi, for one	35 Musical group
22 — as a fiddle	52 Deface	16 Satiated	37 Word before key or scale
23 Sudden raid	53 Equal	20 Make public	38 Breed of dog
26 Small sailing ship		21 High	39 Golfer's goal
30 Swift horse			40 Persia, today
31 Drunkard			41 Long adventure story
32 Twining stem			42 Fashion
33 Use up gradually			43 Band on a shield
35 — Runner (movie)			44 German river
36 English cathedral			46 Space module

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

ADO	TAR	GLOW
LAMB	ODE	RACE
ARAL	PAL	EGAD
STRUM	MILE	
EOS	CANALS	
PULSATE	EGRET	
ELAT	VEN	RIVE
ENDOR	LANOLIN	
RASCAL	PAC	
KNIT	BEHAN	
CADI	TYR	ROME
AVON	ERA	SNEE
PANG	REP	END

Yesterday's answer 8-13

**8-13 CRYPTOQUIP**

VKXICHHWXANU LNKA VNWAF-CK, PKXAOUZ NYQHC E XI KXLLCKZ, PNH YNQDF KCE-DNAECE.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WORLD-FAMOUS INVENTOR OF A MECHANICAL WAITER SAYS, "IT SERVES YOU RIGHT."

Today's Cryptoquip clue: P equals W

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

## Indians need crash course

MELBOURNE, Feb 12: India's World Cup squad will undergo a crash course in basic skills to get over their lean spell on the current Australian tour, reports AP.

Drubbed 4-0 by Australia in the recent Test series, the beleaguered Indians are struggling to find their best form ahead of the nine-nation World Cup starting in Australia and New Zealand on February 22.

Cricketer manager Abbas Ali Baig lays the blame on the players' ignorance of routine skills like running between the wickets and fielding.

"The boys need a re-orientation on the basics of the game, they have to be reminded about this," a worried Baig told AFP here Wednesday.

"Out fielding is pathetic and we run between the wickets like novices. We play in fits and starts and lack the consistency that is so vital in a tournament like the World Cup."

"We need to strengthen our mental attitude so that we can take advantage of a winning situation instead of gifting matches away."

"To top it all, the fitness of many of the boys leaves a lot to be desired. Very few are 100 per cent fit."

"I have been having hard sessions with the boys and reminding them that India's reputation is at stake," Baig, a former Test opener, said.



Saathi won the women's singles title in the Jabbar memorial tennis beating Rina in yesterday's final at the Engineers' Club.