# Windies closer to semis



BERRI, Australia, Mar 13: A thumoing century rom Phil Simmons and an impressive all-round

bowling display moved West Indies to the brink of the World Cup cricket semifinals with a 91-run win over a disjointed Sri Lanka today, reports Reuter.

Simmons, helped by three dropped catches, made 110, his second and highest oneday international century as West Indies scored 268 for eight in their 50 overs.

At one stage they seemed poised for 300 but in the event it mattered little.

Sri Lanka, after a bright start from Athula Samarasekera with 40 in 41 balls, collapsed from 80 for one to 99 for four, then lost five wickets for 19 runs before closing at 177 for nine off 50

The result ended Sri Lanka's dreams of a first appearance in a World Cup semifinal but left West Indies wellplaced in the clutch of teams behind runaway leaders New Zealand and England.

Victory over their tortured hosts, Australia, at Melbourne next Wednesday, will ensure qualification but West Indies could even scrape in if de-

Carl Hooper, with a tight bowling spell and fine fielding, Keith Arthurton (40) and Desmond Haynes (38) also did well in a West Indies side that is running nicely into form. Sri Lanka, however, playing

their most successful World Cup campaign, bowled and fielded loosely while their batting wilted in the 38 degree centigrade heat.

Downcast Sri Lanka captain Aravinda De Silva said, "We deserved to lose, we played very badly. We gave away too many runs early on. We fielded badly and I don't think we bowled too well either."

West Indies skipper Richie Richardson was also disappointed in his side's performance, saying: "The guys were a little relaxed. We have to guard against that when playing a team that is not so strong. I want us to play hard and grind them into the ground"

Put in to bat, the West

Indians began with Haynes cracking a four through the covers, only for fellow opener Brian Lara to give a return catch for one.

That was Simmons' cue to enter and the Sri Lankans to begin offering charity. The tall, erect right-han-

der, who nearly lost his life when a delivery from Gloucestershire fast bowler David Lawrence fractured his skull at Bristol four years ago. was dropped at six and twice

Richardson, meanwhile,



-the-match

drive by Simmons was deflected from bowler Arjuna Ranatunga's hand on to the

Unflustered, Simmons reached 50 in 78 balls and his century 41 balls later, being out after nine fours and two sixes for 110 in 125 deliveries.

The Sri Lankans captured five wickets for 31 runs to stem the flow, only for Winston Benjamin's lively 24 off 20 balls to restore the balance.

Samarasekera began as if he would win the match on his own but when, having tamed Curtly Ambrose and Benjamin, he fell to Carl Hooper's offspin, there was little else. Hooper went on to take two

for 19 in 10 overs as Sri Lanka slipped to 99 for four and then, having revived, lost four wickets for nine runs as the game slipped away. Richardson said, "We won

the first two World Cups and back home they think we should have won the last two."

impressed with their chances in this Cup, saying: 'If a side plays verywell, it will be hard

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Cup cricket match between

West Indies	and Srt La	nka te
day:		
WEST IN	DIES	
Haynes c Tille		
b Ranatunga		- 3
Lara c and b I	Ramanavak	e
Simmons c	No.	
Wickremasing	ghe	
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Richardson ru	A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE	1750
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b Hathurusing		30
Ambrose not	- Carrier 1990	1 1 2
		9
Benjamin not		
Extras : (lb-9,		) 1
Total : (eight		
Fall of wic	rersi	26
rall of wic	kets : 1-0,	2-72
3-103, <b>4-197</b>	, 5-199,	6-219
7-223, 8-228.	occupations and a contraction of the contraction of	200000
Did not bat	: A Cumm	ins.
Bowling :	OM	DI

Wickremasinghe 7 0 30 7 1 17 Ramanayake Anurasiri 1 0 10 Gurusinha Ranatunga 10 0 64 Kalpage Hathurusinghe 8 0 57 SRI LANKA Mahanama c Arthurton b Cummins

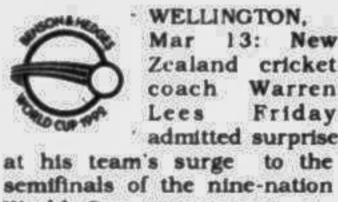
Samarasekera lbw b Hooper Hathurusinghe run out 16 De Silva c and b Hooper Ranatunga c Benjamin b Arthurton Gurusinha c Richardson b Ambrose Tillekeratne b Ambrose Kalpage not out Ramanayake b Arthurton Anurasiri b Benjamin Wickeremasinghe not out Extras: (lb-8, w-14, nb-2) Total: (nine wickets-50 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-56, 2-80, 3-86, 4-99, 5-130, 6-135, 7-137, 8-139, 9-149. Bowling: 24 Ambrose 34 0 Benjamin Cummins 19 Hooper 40 Arthurton

Result: West Indies won by 91 runs

Simmons

# But De Silva was not overly Kiwis surprised at success



Warren Friday admitted surprise World Cup tournament, reports AP.

New Zealand went into the

tournament as a rank underdog after losing a three-Test series against England and suffering a 3-0 loss to England in a limited-overs series.

Three weeks later, the Kiwis boast a 6-0 World Cup record and are certain semifinalists, along with England.

"It has been a bit surprising." Lees said Friday, although he never believed New Zealand's pre-tournament ranking of seventh was accu-

The reason New Zealand were so underestimated, he said, was that everyone also underestimated England, which face New Zealand in a battle between unbeaten teams in Wellington on Sunday.

Everyone misread the England team. They are a very good side," Lees said.

He said the Kiwis took stock after their defeats by England, analysed opposing sides and decided to be inno-

## IOC team to visit SA Mar 28-31

LAUSANNE, Switzerland Mar 13: International Olympic Committee (IOC) vice president Keba Mbasye of Senegal will lead a delegation to South Africa from March 28 to 31, IOC said on Thursday.

In a brief statement the IOC said the mission of the delega tion will be to meet the highest political and sports authorities as well as the National Olympic Committee.

No further details were immediately available.

Mbasye, chairman of the IOC's apartheid commission led a fact finding delegation to South Africa last year, before the republic was readmitted to the Olympic movement as reward for its dismantling of apartheid.

South Africa has accepted an invitation to compete in this year's Barcelona Olympics its first appearance at the games since 1960.

But the IOC has said that only those sports with a unified, non-racial constitution under the auspices of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa will be allowed to take part.

The wave of public support that followed the team's initial upset win over favourites Australia also buoyed the Kiwis. but now is beginning to create pressure, Lees said.

"We didn't feel any pressure in the first couple of games," he said. "Against Australia, people were saying if we only lost by 30 it would be respectable.

not always easy to focus, we are a relatively inexperienced team and it's difficult for one or two of the younger players.

"I keep telling them they are only as good as their last

While the media has focussed on outstanding batting or bowling performances in the tournament, Lees sees the . quality of fielding as a key factor in putting teams in semifinal contention.

"The laxy fielding sides have struggled," Lees said. "That is possibly why the West Indies are struggling a bit.

"We are not a brilliant field ing side, but we are not lazy."

ADELAIDE, Mar 13: South African captain Kepler Wessels and medium-pacer Brian McMillan are both struggling to overcome injuries before Sunday's vital World Cup cricket match against India at Adelaide Oval, reports

Wessels scored a solid 85 in Thursday night's three-wicket loss to England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground and is expected to play despite having a sore thumb, South African coach Mike Procter

said Friday. But Procter said McMillan was "Very much a wait-and-see case after requiring painkillers to enable him to overcome an ankle injury and

face England. "He was seeing a specialist this afternoon — we'll just have to wait and see how is,"

Procter said. McMillan took two for 39 against England and his all-

round ability makes him a key man in the South African team. A win against India would ensure South Africa of a spot in the semifinals — and a possible semifinal rematch with unbeaten England.

"Our approach wouldn't be a lot different if we played them again," Procter said.

The South Africans had a light workout Friday afternoon and would have a full-scale practice on Saturday, Procter

India, which already are eliminated from semifinal contention, arrive later Friday night from New Zealand.

The Kiwis have stunned their opponents by using spinner Dipak Patel as an opening bowler and by unleashing Mark Greatbatch's batting power from the first over.

\*People say that because we succeeded using a spin bowler in the first game, it is the thing to do. But it is not necessarily," Lees said.

Sooner or later he'll get "We are getting further collared. Kris Srikkanth tried down the track now and it is it for India in the first over, but luckily he got out."

Greatbatch's success has left the team's regular opener John Wright on the sidelines after recovering from injury. Lees said the New

Zealanders have even more surprises in store —but he did not wish to reveal them.

### Indonesian stars bite the dust

LONDON, Mar 13: Defending champions Ardy Wiranata and Susi Susanti were both beaten on black Thursday for the Indonesian favourites at the All England badminton championships, reports Reu-

Bidding for a quarter final place, Wiranata, seeded two, lost to the Chinese Liu Jun 15-10, 15-8. Susanti also seeking a place in the last eight fell to a little known Chinese Ye Zhaoying, who won 5-11, 11-5,

Wiranata for once was made to look ordinary against Liu, who on his day is capable of beating anyone.

After losing the first game, the Indonesian looked to be back on course when he led 6-4 in the second.

But the Chinese then won 10 points in succession and, despite missing an easy smash at the net for his first chance of securing victory, he made sure of the win shortly after-

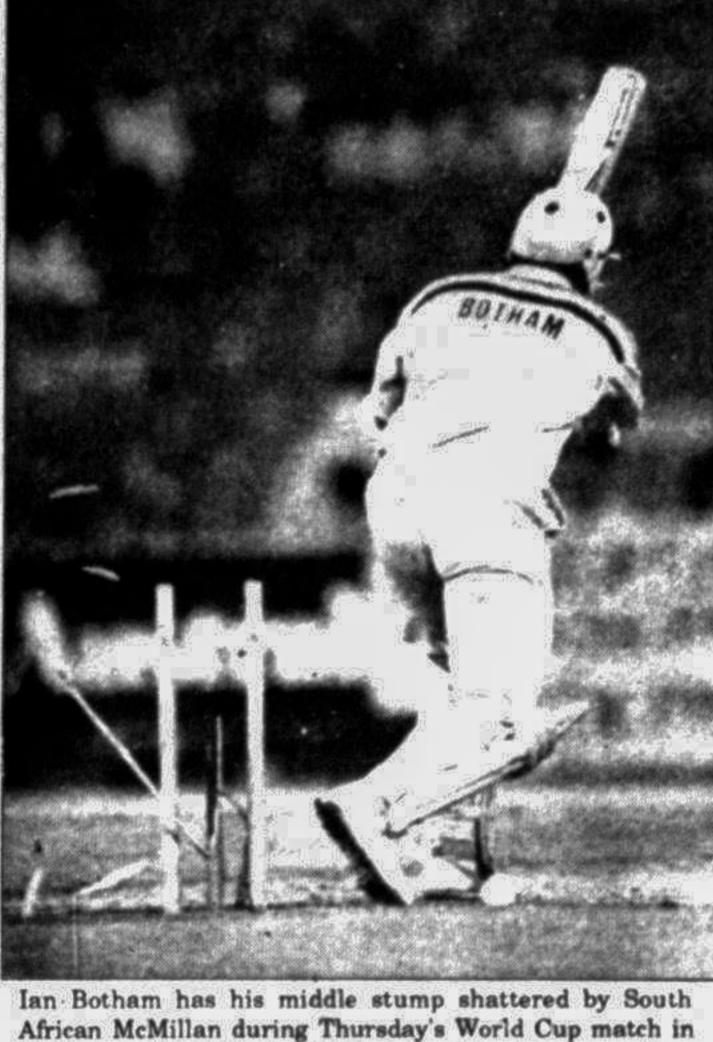
Susanti, elegant as ever, raced into a 10-1 lead in the first game when there was no hint of the drama to come.

Gradually Ye began to assert herself moving from 5-3 to 8-3 in the second game as Susanti who can sometimes appear frail lost her way.

After levelling matters Ye looking the more confident, went 6-2 up and then 10-5. At match point she served

into the net but Susanti, the world number one, then hit a fairly easy shot out and the Chinese made no mistake the second time round.

Earlier in the men's event, another leading Indonesian had fallen by the wayside when South Korea's Lee Kwang Jin beat joint fifth seed Bambang Suprianto 15-5, 18-13.



Melbourne. McMillan's ball destroyed the "stump cam" television camera mounted inside the wicket. -AFP photo

## LEADING PERFORMERS

SYDNEY, Mar 13: Following are the leading individual performances in the World Cup cricket after Fridays match: BATTING: Tabulate under batsman, country, matches, innings, not out, highest score, runs, average:

1		M	1	NO	HS	R	Ave
1	M D Crowe (NZ)	6	6	4	100	289	144.50
30	N H Fairbrother (Engl	5	4	2	75	175	87.50
100	P N Kirsterr (S Africa)	6	6	2	90	315	78.75
200	A Ranatunga (S Lanka)	6	6	2	88	255	63.75
0.00	Javed Miandad (Pak)	5	5	1	89	235	58.75
2	A H Jones (NZ)	6	6	2	67	221	55.25
	A Flower (Zimb)	6	6	2	115	219	54.75
100	M J Greatbatch (NZ)	4	4	396	73	219	54.75
12	S R Tendulkar (India)	6	6	1	84	269	53.80
ij	B M McMillan (S Africa)	4	4	2	33	104	52.00
	BOWLING: (Tabulate	unde	r bo	wler,	count	ry, over	s, maid-
0.00	ens, runs, wickets, avera	ge) -	- mi	nimu	n 5 w	ickets:	
3		PELIFICA.	0	M	1	t W	Ave

	0	M	R	W	Ave
D A Reeve (Eng)	28.4	4	95	8	11.87
C Z Harris (NZ)	50.1	4	213	13	16.38
l T Botham (Eng)	58	5	170	10	17.00
C C Lewis (Eng)	35.4	3	124	7	17.71
M Prabhakar (India)	52	4	212	11	19.27
P N Kirsten (S Africa)	18	1	97	5	19.40
Wasim Akram (Pak)	50.2	2	180	8	22.50
P A DeFreitas (Eng)	51	8	182	8	22.75
B M McMillan (S Africa)	58	7	231	10	23.10
A C Cummins (WI)	49	0	208	9	23.1
K C Wessels (S Africa)					•
D A Reeve (Eng) WICKETKEEPERS: (T	n wrate			30	

D J Richardson (S Africa) D Williams (WI) ! A Healy (Aust) Moin Khan (Pak) K S More (India) A J Stewart (Eng) H P Tillekeratne (S Lanka) 1 D Smith (NZ) A Flower( Zimb)



Pakistan cricket Imran captain Khan Friday young

bowler Aaqib Javed as the player most responsible for keeping his team in contention for the

World Cup, reports AP. Pakistan's usually-potent attack has been hampered

throughout the tournament by



AAQIB JAVED

the absence of injured Wagar Younis, a nagging shoulder injury that has plagued Imran and Wasim Akram's problems in controlling the white balls used in the competition.

Imran said Friday that 19year-old Aaqib has helped hold the team together.

"Aaqib is a very under-rated Aouita's record

ATILENS, Mar 13 Said Aoutta added the 3,000 metres indoor world record to his collection of five outdoor marks at an international athletics meeting on Wednesday, reports Reuter. The Moroccan seized the

and finished in seven minutes 36.66 second - 0.65 of a second inside the previous best set by Kenyan Moses Kiptanui in Spain last month. "Everybody thought I was finished but this is my answer. It was a very fast race and I felt

lead four laps from the end

bowler, no-one realises just how important he has been," lmran said.

"When we need him, he always delivers. "Whenever we have needed

breakthrough in matches he

has provided one for us." Despite his youth, Aaqib has played 54 international oneday matches since making his debut against the West Indies in the triangular World Series Cup competition in Australia in

Imran believes Aagib ma-

tured into a key member of the

three-pronged Pakistan pace

attack during the Sharjah tournament in the United Arab Emirates late last year. Aaqib captured seven for 37, including a hat-trick made

up entirely of lbw decisions, in the final against arch-rivals "People in Australia might

not understand the atmosphere of an India-Pakistan final, but there was a lot of pressure on both teams," Imran Aaqib also played a major

certainly ending Australia's dream of defending the World Cup title it won in 1987. Aaqib took three for 23 and his first six overs cost only 11 runs as Pakistan beat Australia

role on Wednesday in almost

by 48 runs in Perth. The victory kept alive Pakistan's slim hopes of qualifying for the semifinals by advancing the team's World Cup record to five points from six matches.

Pakistan needs a number of although the team played well results to go its way -- and at times they lacked consisneeds to win its final two matches -- to have any chance of making the semis. "We have to win our final two matches," Imran said. "It

is too difficult to weigh-up all

control, let alone others you

the other pros and cons. "Some teams have to lose here, and others win there. "It is difficult enough to worry about matters you can

Pakistan faces Sri Lanka in Perth on Sunday and then confident from the start that I plays New Zealand would break the record." Christchurch next Wednesday.

can't control."

# Houghton has no illusions



Saturday, reports AFP. Captain David Houghton is under no illusion that the Cup defenders' almost certain failure to qualify for the semi-finals will mean an easy match.

"Australia will bounce back," Houghton said Friday. "Their players are just too professtonal to let themselves down and drop their bundles.

expect possibly our toughest match of the series so far." Houghton, overall, is pleased with his team's performances in the tournament's six matches so far despite their failure to post a win yet. "Our performances have

gone pretty much as I thought before we arrived in Australia." he said. "I thought Sri Lanka India and even New Zealand might have been within reach "As it turned out," I'm not that far wrong. With a bit of

luck we could have beaten both Sri Lanka and India. "We scored 312 against Sri Lanka and should never have lost, while against India we

were virtually ruled out of the result when rain interrupted "So overall the campaign

could have been a success with a bit of luck."

Houghton said the overall improvement of his bowlers had been the biggest positive aspect on the minnows of world cricket who are at-

tempting to win Test status. "If we played Sri Lanka again now I don't think they would score anything like the runs they did against us," he

"Our bowlers have learned so much and that was our weakest link before the series. "It's all just a benefit from playing against this class of opposition over a concerted

period. "It has brought all our players alone, specially someone like young keeper batsman



DAVID HOUGHTON Andy Flower. He really has gone ahead in leaps and

"So you could say I'm pleased with the way things have gone and we'll be in there

After Saturday's game against Australia on the picturesque ground in the capital of Tasmania, Zimbabwe finish their campaign against the West Indies next Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Australia are still grappling with the faint hope of qualifying for the semi-

Wins against Zimbabwe and West Indies in Melbourne next Wednesday would put the Australians on eight points and a likely tie for fourth place.

But to qualify, Australia must win both games convincingly to boost their net run rate, the statistical device used to separate teams on equal

### CUP STANDINGS

World Cup cricket standings after Friday's match (Tabulate under played, won, lost, no result, points, net run-rate): New Zealand 6

West Indies South Africa Pakistan Sri Lanka Australia

Note: net run-rate is difference between batting and bowling rates. Under competition rules, runs scored in no-result matches are not included in run-rate.

put it together - and that's the

hamstring injury has been of

concern, but Border said he

"He's not 100 per cent fit,

but he's good enough to get

by," Border said. "I think that

likely to miss the match with a

growing strain and Kevin

disappointing aspect."

definitely would play

#### Border out to salvage pride other fixtures and Australia HOBART, Austra "It's just that we haven't



lia, Mar 13: Australia will be hoping to restore their cricket pride when they face winless Zimbabwe in World Cup match on Saturday

at Bellerive Oval, reports AP. Australia have won only two of their six World Cup matches to date and have virtually no chance of qualifying for the semifinals. Australian captain Allan

Friday that his team would be out to rebuild their image. We want to show some semblance of the sort of form that we are capable of," Border

Border has been the subject of

widespread criticism and said

He said he was aware there was a slim chance that Australia could make the semifinals, but that possibility hinged on the outcome of

winning their remaining matches by massive totals. 'I'm not really thinking of

the possibility (of making the semifinals), to be quite honest," Border said. "I think that would be rather far- fetched to even

"If we do make it that will

be great, but we don't really descrive to be there." Border's own play has yielded just 30 runs in six matches at an average of six. He said Wednesday night's loss

think about it.

"We wanted to play in the semifinals of the World Cup. We did not consider not being a part of it," he said. "Our preparation before

each match has been very good

and we didn't do anything dif-

ferent to what we had done

over the past four or five years.

it is important to have your best wicketkeeper playing." Zimbabwe also have been to Pakistan had demoralised hit by injuries. the Australian team. Malcolm Jarvis, the team's left- arm opening bowler, is

Bruce Reid.

Duers in on standby. Batsmen Andy Flower, Kevin Arnott and Wayne James, who are all nursing had injuries, have been declared

# Lamb likely to play at last



WELLINGTON, Mar 13: England batsman Allan Lamb is set to make his first

appearance of the cricket World Cup on Sunday in an intriguing showdown against New Zealand that should decide who finishes top of the round-robin standings. reports Reuter.

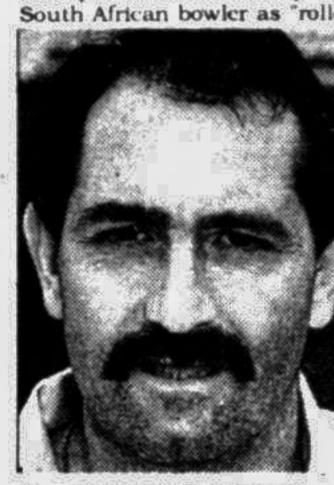
Lamb has been kept on the sidelines by a hamstring injury sustained at the end of England's recent tour of New Zealand but captain Graham Gooch said: " Lamb's airight for Sunday so that's good for the side.

Gooch, nursing a torn hamstring which prevented him playing against South Africa on Thursday, has all but ruled himself out of the clash with New Zealand.

"I'll take it easy Friday and Saturday," Gooch said. "There is no point in playing and risking injury when we are already through to the semifinals and we still have to play Zimbabwe."

Second-placed England despite mounting injury problems, will be seeking to repeat the sort of comprehensive thrashing inflicted on New Zealand during the six-week tour just before the World

But Cup leaders New Zealand are a born-again side, brimming with confidence and innovation and enjoying the advantage of playing all their preliminary matches on slow pitches described by one South African bowler as "rolled



GRAHAM GOOCH

"We are looking for 10 out of 10 wins," New Zealand captain Martin Crowe said on Thursday after a comfortable victory over 1983 Cup winners India in the icy winds of the

southern city of Dunedin. Hours after the New Zealand victory, England seized a thrilling win with one ball to spare against South Africa in Melbourne, clinching a semifinal place. However, England's attack

looked more like a hospital casualty ward line-up. Chris Lewis was unable to bowl in Melbourne because of a side injury. Dermot Reeve injured his buttock when he slipped while bowling and Phillip DeFreitas went off after completing his 10 overs. Kepler Wessels, captain of

the South African team that has been beaten by both England and New Zealand, tips England as the stronger of the "If I had to pick between the two teams I'd rate England

much higher than New

Zealand, he said after

Thursday's defeat. New Zealand may not have England's depth in batting or bowling, out they have discovered unlikely match-winners in the form of opener Mark Greatbatch, who has scored three whirlwind half-cen-

New Zealand's other has

"Perhaps they didn't try

anything different," said Crowe

whose own captaincy in the

tournament has been charac-

terised by inspired innovation.

using off-spinner Dipak Patel

as the opening bowler. "We

played Patel in a nothing-to-

tend the traditional post-

match news conference. Baig

initially said he was feeling

unwell but agreed he was

India play their final game

against South Africa in

Azharuddin declined to at-

lose attitude," he said.

"emotionally down."

Adelaide on Sunday.

He pointed to his tactic of

# Indians lost their way: Baig



lost their way at crucial moments, according to manager Abbas Ali Baig, reports Reuter. Baig, speaking after India went down to New Zealand by four wickets Thursday said that

tency. "We lost our direction at critical moments," he said. "We have been inconsistent and maybe we caked ambition." But he said there was no

suggestion that captain Mohammad Azharuddin would lose his job. Baig noted that India had more than their quota of bad luck in the World Cup. Four of

the seven games were affected by rain. We did have bad luck against Sri Lanka, we fancied

The folks back home will be very disappointed, the least

India, Cup winners in 1983, can only reach the last four if some improbable results occur in the few remaining games.

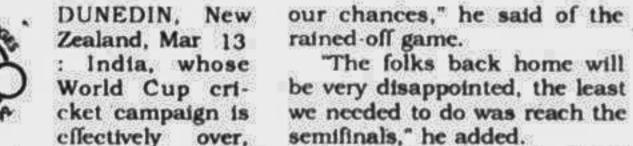
during which India lost the five-Test series 4-0. They gular World Series competi-Australia.

against Australia, when they lost by one run but also lost three crucial overs because of rain, there was "panic-stations

at crucial moments." Martin Crowe, whose allconquering New Zealanders have now won six out of six, suggested another reason for turies, and seam bowler Chris Harris, who has taken 13 wickets.

been Crowe, who has rediscovered his elegant batting form and brought innovative tactics to the unfancied team, such as opening the bowling with offspinner Dipak Patel.

the Indians' failure.



The failure comes at the end of a long tour of Australia reached the final of the trian-

don, edging out West Indies, but were again easily beaten by Baig said India panicked in their nine-run opening Cup game loss to England. And

ISF tries to get Dutch coach AMSTERDAM, Mar 13: The

Israeli Soccer Federation said Thursday it is trying to sign Dutch national team coach Rinus Michels after his contract expires this summer, re-

ports AP.

#### Spinner Peter Taylor is likely to return to the team to meet Zimbabwe as a replacement for out-of-touch paceman Wicketkeeper lan Healy's