

Australians in Pakistan

KARACHI, Sept 19: Australia's cricketers arrived in Pakistan on Monday for what promises to be a close fought Test series, their first without former captain and voracious run-maker Allan Border, reports Reuter.

Pakistan are a very tough side to beat and they have been playing very well for the last 12 months, captain Mark Taylor told the Karachi newspaper Dawn. "But that doesn't mean we can't beat them. We haven't come here to lose."

The Australians, with a strong batting order, will look mainly to paceman Craig McDermott and leg spinner Shane Warne for penetration against the Pakistani line-up.

Pakistan's manager Intikhab Alam said his players would not be underestimating their opponents, but would hold the edge with an attack spearheaded by fast bowlers Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis, backed by the leg spin of Mushtaq Ahmad.

"The Australians are a very good side," Alam said. "We have

very good chance provided we have enough runs on the board. We can get them out twice."

Pakistan will be without prolific batsman Javed Miandad, who is in London recovering from a knee operation.

"Pakistan's performance depends a lot on fast bowlers Wasim and Waqar. If they will create problems, but the Aussies are te-

Warwickshire's unique treble

LONDON, Sept 19: Warwickshire became Sunday league champions when they beat Gloucestershire by 46 runs in the final match of the season, reports Reuter.

It gave Warwickshire an unprecedented hat-trick of titles. They won the Benson and Hedges limited overs tournament earlier in the season and have made also certain of the county championship.

In the fourth competition, the NatWest Trophy, Warwickshire lost in the final to Worcestershire.

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One-day cricket redefined

SYDNEY, Sept 19: Australia will experiment with a new format for limited overs cricket which splits the game into four innings instead of the present two, officials said today, reports Reuter.

In a 50 overs match under the experimental rules, the side batting first will face half of their allotted overs before effectively being forced to declare.

The opposition will then take their turn in the middle for 25 overs. Both sides will then bat again for the remainder of their overs.

Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chairman Alan Crompton said the changes could be introduced at senior level if they were found to add excitement.

"It's an experiment only but the board is interested in and supportive of anything where there is an aim to improve the game," Crompton said.

There's a suggestion that some matches lose their interest early in the piece, particularly if the team batting first is about 70 for six after 25 overs.

"In this experiment, even if the team batting second takes a lead, there's always a possibility for the other team to recover in its last 25 overs."

Tasmania's Sheffield Shield side will play two matches under the new rules, including a friendly against Queensland on October 6.

Lee cancels Hiroshima visit

TAIPEI, Sept 19: President Lee Teng-Hui of Taiwan officially announced today that he had cancelled a planned visit to next month's Asian Games in Japan, reports AFP.

The presidential office said in a statement that "serious political interference" had made it impossible for Lee to go to the Games.

Lee condemned China's role in the international storm over its invitation to the event.

"China's role in the international sports has impaired" the athletic spirit of the event, it said.

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Gerulaitis was No 4 in the world in 1984. He won 27 singles titles and nine doubles championships on the ATP Tour and had career earnings of dls 2,778,748.

The Brooklyn, New York, native won four of 22 tournaments in 1979 and won five of six Davis Cup matches to help the United States retain the title. He played on the US team from 1977-80.

In one of his finest matches, Gerulaitis rallied past Roscoe Tanner in the semifinals of the 1979 US Open after trailing by two sets and down a service break. In 1977, he lost in a Grand Slam semifinal, falling to Bjorn Borg in a five-set tiebreaker at Wimbledon.

His sister, Ruta, played on the women's tour and reached a ranking of No 31 in 1980.

SOUTHAMPTON, New York, Sept 19: Former Australian Open tennis champion Vitas Gerulaitis was found dead at a friend's home here Sunday. He was 40 years old, report agencies.

Police said a preliminary investigation did not reveal any suspicious circumstances. The cause of death will be determined after an examination by the Suffolk County Medical Examiner's office.

Gerulaitis, a former Australian Open winner, played Wednesday in Seattle on the Champions Tour, a circuit for men's players 35 and over. He withdrew from the tournament the next day because of a bad back.

Gerulaitis, who started the main tour in 1985, worked last weekend for CBS on the US Open as a studio analyst. He also played in the men's 35 and over doubles event during the Open.

"Everybody in tennis knew

VITAS GERULAITIS

Gerulaitis had acknowledged using cocaine during the late 1970s and admitted his drug use undercut his ability as a player.

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