

## Sport

## Bits &amp; pieces

From page 13  
half-century in the World Cup.  
Holding said, "Mehrab has a lot of potential and cricketing knowledge in him and has a bright future."

## TV BAN

LONDON, May 22: England made save none of their World Cup cricketers gave in to the temptation of tuning into the FA Cup final between Manchester United and Newcastle today, reports AFP.

They banned television from the dressing room at The Oval before the game against South Africa.

David Lloyd, the England coach, is a passionate Manchester United fan, as is Neil Fairbrother.

England's match against the South Africans attracted a sell-out crowd of 18,500. But that was dwarfed by the 79,000 that packed Wembley for the football.

## NO HOPE FOR WOOLMER

LONDON, May 22: England's hopes of recruiting South African coach Bob Woolmer after the cricket World Cup have dimmed, according to media reports today, says AFP.

Several newspapers said England, who took on South Africa at The Oval today, were losing hope of winning Woolmer's signature.

The tournament hosts have already announced the departure of their current coach David Lloyd immediately after the World Cup. Woolmer, meanwhile, sees his contract with the South Africans end after the event.

Woolmer, a former English Test batsman and regarded as one of the most innovative thinkers in the modern game, seemed an obvious replacement.

But the Daily Mail newspaper said today that England were "increasingly wary about employing someone who has given the impression that a financial offer he simply cannot refuse will be the only enticement."

## Pak v Australia

From page 13  
in Lahore between them in November.

Then Pakistan put on 315 for eight, thanks to centuries from Ijaz Ahmed and Younus Youhana, only to see Australia win with six wickets and seven balls to spare, thanks to tons from Gilchrist and Ricky Ponting.

## SQUADS

**AUSTRALIA (probable):** Adam Gilchrist, Mark Waugh, Ricky Ponting, Darren Lehmann, Steve Waugh (capt.), Michael Bevan, Shane Warne, Damien Fleming, Adam Dale, Glenn McGrath.

**PAKISTAN (probable):** Saeed Anwar, Shahid Afridi, Abdul Razzaq, Ijaz Ahmed, Mohammadul Haq, Younus Youhana, Moin Khan, Wasim Akram (capt.), Azhar Mahmood, Saqlain Mushtaq, Shoaib Akhtar.

## It's now football

From page 13  
ten thousand hot dogs.

Preliminaries of today's FA cup final began on September 5 with five hundred fifty-eight clubs entering the tournament.

Back in Dublin, preparations are afoot for tomorrow's short flight to Edinburgh. Despite Bangladesh's two defeats, both to superior and experienced opponents, they were not humiliated.

Spirit in Tanveer Muzhar Islam's camp is high, although one or two BCB officials are becoming increasingly frustrated for they had hoped for better performances from the senior members of the team.

A good result on Monday could change all that. Anything less could be disastrous for the future of cricket in Bangladesh. It is always a difficult game when players go out under these do or die situations. But, who said cricket was a ball game?

## Happy go speedy

From page 13  
where he quickly proved himself with a five for 43 return in a match against South Africa.

Despite all the adulation -- both from cricket fans and legions of female admirers -- the personable Shoaib recognises that he cannot win the Cup on his own.

"We are working well together and the combination is good," he said. "The most important thing is that we are playing as a team."

It was just that sort of team spirit that enabled Pakistan to fight back from adversity in 1992 and go on to lift the trophy.

## Steve refutes rift rumour

LEEDS, England, May 22: Australian captain Steve Waugh denied rumours of a rift in his World Cup squad and said it was ridiculous to claim he was not talking to vice-captain Shane Warne, reports AFP.

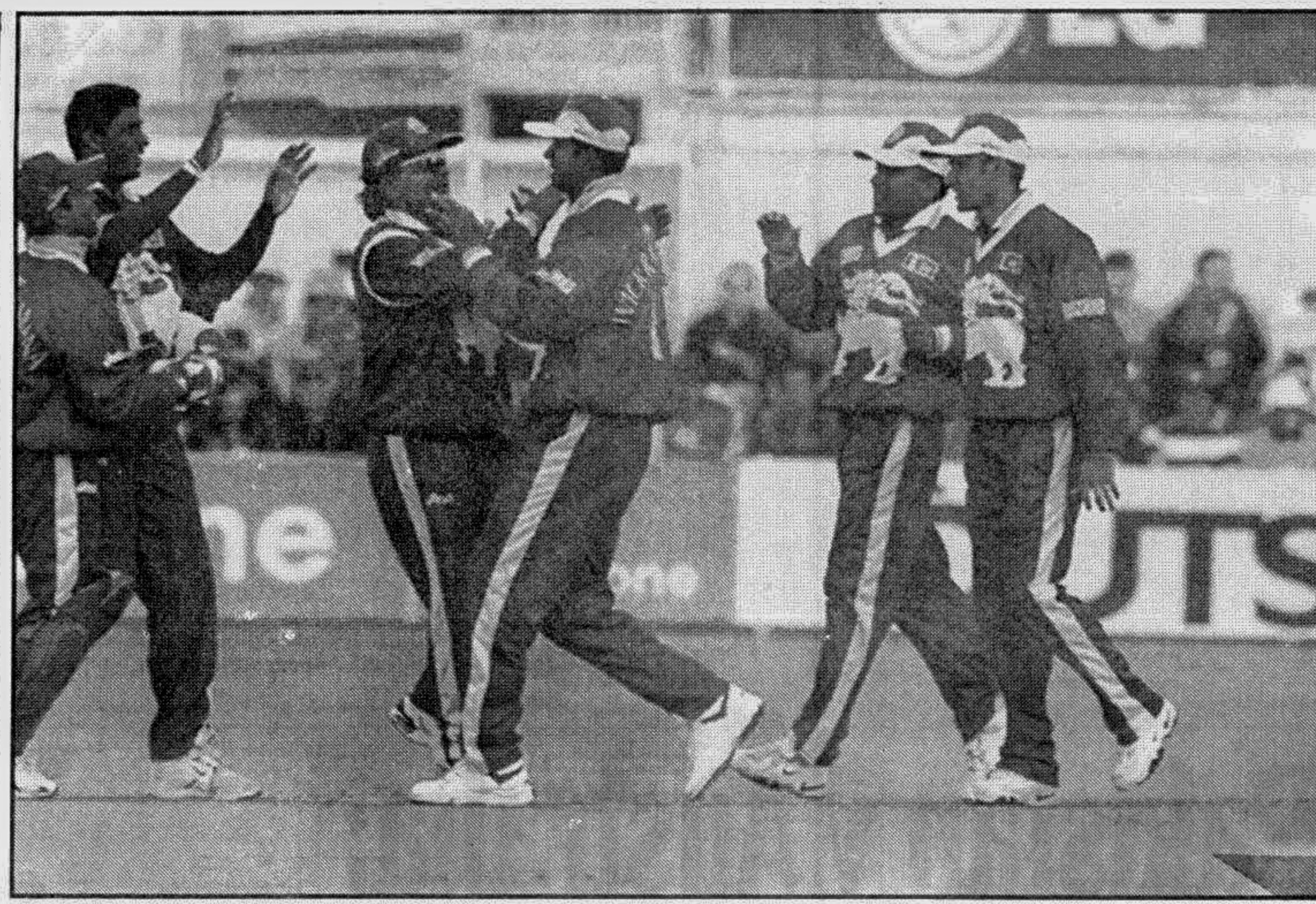
An Australian radio station had reported that the two men were not speaking because of a difference of opinion over Waugh's low key approach to captaincy.

But the skipper, with Warne alongside him, totally refuted the claim after training at Headington on Saturday.

"It's just ridiculous," he said. "There is absolutely no problem between us or anyone else in the team and I don't know where the idea comes from," said Waugh.

Waugh agreed and said that there was no disharmony in the squad and that they were all focused entirely on beating Pakistan in Sunday's fixture.

Both sides will name their teams on the morning of the match.



Sri Lankan players celebrate after the fall of a Zimbabwe wicket.

— AFP photo

## BATTING, BOWLING SO FAR

LONDON, May 22 (Reuters): Top batting and bowling performances at the World Cup tournament after Friday's matches (\*denotes not out):

## BATTING

97 — Saurav Ganguly (India) v South Africa, May 15, Hove.  
96 — Jacques Kallis (South Africa) v India, May 15, Hove.  
\*88 — Nasser Hussain (England) v Kenya, May 18, Canterbury.

88 — Alec Stewart (England) v Sri Lanka, May 14, Lord's.  
81 — Younus Youhana (Pakistan) v Scotland, May 20, Durham.  
\*80 — Roger Twose (New Zealand) v Australia, May 20, Cardiff.

77 — Shivnarine Chanderpaul (West Indies) v Pakistan, May 16, Bristol.  
76 — Darren Lehmann (Australia) v New Zealand, May 20, Cardiff.

76 — Gavin Hamilton (Scotland) v Pakistan, May 20, Durham.  
\*73 — Graeme Hick (England) v Sri Lanka, May 14, Lord's.

71 — Steve Tikolo (Kenya) v England, May 18, Canterbury.  
\*69 — Andy Flower (Zimbabwe) v India, May 19, Leicester.  
67 — Mark Waugh (Australia) v Scotland, May 16, Worcester.  
64 — Mehrab Hossain (Bangladesh) v West Indies, May 21, Dublin.

\*53 — Jimmy Adams (West Indies) v Bangladesh, May 21, Dublin.  
51 — Ridley Jacobs (West Indies) v Bangladesh, May 21, Dublin.

## BOWLING

4 for 25 — Courtney Walsh (West Indies) v Bangladesh, May 21, Dublin.  
4 for 34 — Darren Gough (England) v Kenya, May 18, Canterbury.

4 for 37 — Alan Mullally (England) v Sri Lanka, May 14, Lord's.  
4 for 37 — Geoff Allott (New Zealand) v Australia, May 20, Cardiff.

4 for 42 — Neil Johnson (Zimbabwe) v Kenya, May 15, Taunton.  
3 for 11 — Shoaib Akhtar (Pakistan) v Scotland, May 20, Durham.

3 for 19 — Gavin Larsen (New Zealand) v Bangladesh, May 17, Chelmsford.

3 for 21 — Lance Klusener (South Africa) v Sri Lanka, May 19, Northampton.  
3 for 22 — Henry Olonga (Zimbabwe) v India, May 19, Leicestershire.

3 for 23 — Wasim Akram (Pakistan) v Scotland, May 20, Durham.  
3 for 25 — Muttiah Muralitharan 3 for 28 (Sri Lanka) v South Africa, May 19, Northampton.

3 for 26 — Jacques Kallis (South Africa) v Sri Lanka, May 19, Northampton.

3 for 28 — Courtney Walsh (West Indies) v Pakistan, May 16, Bristol.

3 for 29 — Mervyn Dillon (West Indies) v Pakistan, May 16, Bristol.

3 for 30 — Geoff Allott (New Zealand) v Bangladesh, May 17, Chelmsford.

3 for 30 — Reon King (West Indies) v Bangladesh, May 21, Dublin.

3 for 32 — Abdul Razzaq (Pakistan) v West Indies, May 16, Bristol.

3 for 38 — Abdul Razzaq (Pakistan) v Scotland, May 20, Durham.

## ZIMBABWE SRI LANKA SCOREBOARD

From page 13

Scoreboard of the Zimbabwe innings against Sri Lanka at Worcester yesterday:

ZIMBABWE	R	B	4	6
N Johnson c Wickramasinghe b Upashantha	8	17	1	0
G Flower c Kaluwitharana b Wickramasinghe	42	69	6	0
P Strang c Wickramasinghe	5	8	1	0
M Goodwin run out (Jayasuriya/Muralitharan)	21	29	2	0
A Flower c Kaluwitharana b Jayasuriya	41	60	3	0
A Campbell c Kaluwitharana b Wickramasinghe	6	8	1	0
G Whittall c Ranatunga b Muralitharan	4	11	1	0
S Carlisle run out (Vaas/Jayasuriya)	27	36	1	0
H Streak c Atapattu b Muralitharan	10	23	0	0
E Brandies not out	19	29	1	1
H Olonga not out	5	10	1	0
Extras: (lb-3, w-6)	9			
Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)	197			
Fall of wkt: 1-21 (Johnson, 7.3 ov); 2-34 (Strang 10.5 ov); 3-78 (Goodwin, 19.2 ov); 4-81 (GW Flower, 20.4 ov); 5-89 (Campbell, 22.4 ov); 6-94 (GJ Whittall, 25.5 ov); 7-162 (Carlisle, 39.3 ov); 8-162 (A Flower, 39.4 ov); 9-176 (Streak, 46.6 ov)				

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Vaas	10	1	47	0 (lw)
Upashantha	10	1	43	1 (4w)
Wickramasinghe	10	1	30	3
Jayawardene	1	0	8	0
Muralitharan	10	2	29	2 (lw)
Jayasuriya	7	0	28	1
De Silva	2	0	9	0

Umpires: SA Bucknor (WI) and D R Shepherd.  
TV Umpire: MJ Kitchen.  
Match Referee: Talat Ali (Pak).

## Media madness

SYDNEY, May 22: Australia's cricketers have come under heavy fire from their national media after their unexpected World Cup defeat by New Zealand, reports Reuters.

While most commentators insisted Thursday's defeat was not a real cause for panic the general consensus was that Australia were facing an ignominious and premature exit from the tournament if they failed to improve sharply.

This loss will be remembered as the sobering face slap Australia needed to bring them to life or the first step of a painful slide out of the tournament, the Daily Telegraph's

"Our No 1 reason for release is to assure that Mr Tyson will reintegrate safely into society and follow the general rules of his parole," the commission said. "He needs to be supervised and held accountable to public standards of conduct."

A call to Tyson probation officer George Walker was not immediately returned.

Manager Shirley Finkel.

## Lara looking forward

SOUTHAMPTON, England, May 22 (Reuters): Only a privileged few competing in the current World Cup have the ability to reverse the course of a game through pure individual genius.

One of the elite is Brian Lara and, as the West Indies captain showed against Australia in the drawn test series these year, he can make a mockery of otherwise sensible pre-match predictions.

Lara played a cameo innings of 25 from as many balls in West Indies' seven wicket win over Bangladesh on Friday after tallying a disappointing 11 in the loss to Pakistan.

He is overdue for a big score and Monday's Group B match against the resurgent New Zealanders would appear a perfect opportunity.

"It was important to get our first win," Lara said. "And hopefully we can get on top of them."

Lara's astonishing recent form in the Caribbean and the perennial excellence of Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh can not obscure the flaws in the current West Indies' team which were again evident in the matches against Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The backup bowling after Ambrose and Walsh is indifferent and the West Indies have had particular problems coping with the white Duke ball, conceding 48 wides in their two

matches to date.

Ambrose missed the Bangladesh match with a shoulder injury but is expected to be fit for Monday's match.

The West Indies' batting fell away against Pakistan and although Ridley Jacobs, Jimmy

work.

Successful New Zealand cricket teams, rare beasts compared to their rugby sides, have always been more than the sum of their parts and coach Steve Rixton has emphasised personal self belief and collective responsibility.

The former Australian wicketkeeper had no divided loyalties after New Zealand's five-wicket win over his home nation on Thursday and believes he has assembled a team ready to beat the best.

"We have got as much flair as any team in this tournament," Rixton said. "There's enough batting to chase a score of 250 or 300 and get them."

The last World Cup of the millennium may provide the setting for all-round Chris Cairns to show he can at last be ranked among the world's more significant players.

Cairns has as much pure talent as any competitor in the tournament as he demonstrated with a gem of an innings against Australia.

He shares the growing confidence of a New Zealand side whose odds are shortening daily but in understandably wary of Lara.

"You just never know what he's going to do," Cairns said. "It just depends what side of the bed he wakes up on."

## Tyson to be freed June 4?



W

ASHINGTON,

May 22:

Mike Tyson, in jail

for

assaulting

two

motorists,