

## Sport

## Bits &amp; pieces

From page 13

Klusener's last out was in game three of the series in New Zealand in March, which South Africa came from behind to win 3-2. He is unbeaten in five innings in this World Cup and has notched 210 runs including two half centuries and a match-saving 46 against Pakistan on Saturday.

South Africa have five wins from six games and has not yet played New Zealand.

But Kiwi bowling spearhead Geoff Allott has proved to be the most successful bowler of the competition, already equaling the World Cup record 18 wickets for a single tournament, and could be the man to end Klusener's unbeaten run.

## NOW 5-MAN LIST

LONDON, June 9: The England Cricket Board has reduced its list of replacements for outgoing coach David Lloyd to five candidates, with the leading contender still current South African coach Bob Woolmer and Australian Dav Whatmore, who coached Sri Lanka to their 1996 World Cup triumph, reports AP.

Lloyd, who announced his resignation before the World Cup where England were eliminated after the first round — has appealed for the ECB to appoint an English coach and, because Woolmer is not available immediately, to appoint an interim coach.

After a meeting at Lord's the ECB released a short-list containing three foreign coaches including Whatmore, former New Zealand captain John Wright and former Zimbabwe skipper Duncan Fletcher.

Apart from Woolmer, who is English but has spent his recent years in South Africa, the only other Englishman on the short-list is Leicestershire coach Jack Birkinshaw.

The ECB expects to announce its new coach next month.

Whatmore, who took over from Lloyd as Lancashire coach three years ago, says he's "genuinely interested in the job."

Wright is currently coaching at Kent and Fletcher is coach at Glamorgan.

## BLACKERS' BOON

MANCHESTER, June 9: The subcontinental cricket rivalry between India and Pakistan has helped ticket scalpers make a killing at Manchester's Old Trafford ground Tuesday as a sizable chunk of the city's population wanted to squeeze into the stadium for the Super Six confrontation, reports AP.

With India and Pakistan locked in combat for the first time on English soil, the stage was tailored for the scalpers, known here as "touts."

Almost 80 per cent of the 20,400 tickets were already sold prior to the tournament and the remaining available tickets picked up by Pakistan fans when their team qualified in No 1 spot in Group B standings. So the few available tickets were at a premium.

Twenty minutes before the first ball was sent down, a 24 pound (39 dollars) ticket was selling for 70 pounds (113 dollars) and the asking price for a 36 pound ticket was more than 100 pounds.

The scalpers claimed that was just a fraction of what they had hoped for.

"I got much more for selling a few (tickets) yesterday (Monday) at a pub," said one. "Last night I was quoting prices up to 200 pounds (322 dollars)."

A cricket buff stood near the car park with a printed sheet saying "Not a tout, but just a cricket lover. Please give me your spare ticket."

His appeal attracted the notice of a passerby, who handed him a 36-pound ticket at face value and they offered to buy him a drink as well.

"That's the best thing I've done for a long time," said Sarjit Singh, the person who gave him the ticket at face value. "We're going to be sitting together for seven hours ... let's have a good time together."

## Captain calm

From page 13  
sive, very tentative in their cricket.

"It seemed they had a giant hangover from losing to South Africa."

Pakistan, who have slipped back to second favorites for the title behind South Africa, remain on four points in the Super Six table. They are one behind Zimbabwe and equal with the South Africans, who have a game in hand.

New Zealand are one point behind Pakistan but also with a game in hand.

Akram said he would not give his players a roasting after the defeat.

"I will let them go away and think about things," he said.

The only man to emerge from Pakistan's run chase with credit was wicketkeeper Moin Khan, who made a typically aggressive 33 off 37 balls.

Inzamam-ul Haq was the major disappointment. Carrying a finger injury sustained while fielding, he made a dour, out-of-character 41 off 93 balls, his inability to score or rotate the strike taking the steam out of the run chase.

The loss of the injured Younus Youhana clearly left a big hole in the batting.

Azharuddin, meanwhile, was breathing a sigh of relief.

"I thought we were 25 runs short but I have no complaints, since we came out on a winning note," he said.

But he knows his side will have to beat New Zealand in their final game and all the other results go India's way if they are to scrap through to the last four on run rate.

For Pakistan, who earlier found themselves on the wrong end of a shock defeat to Bangladesh, the key challenge will be to rediscover the fighting spirit that made them look so formidable early in the tournament.



An AFP file shows Sanath Jayasuriya (L) talking to a Sri Lankan cricket commentator just before boarding the plane to head for England to participate in the World Cup on April 24.

## England turn to Botham

London, June 9: England cricket great Ian Botham has been drafted in to help the struggling national side's selectors as they try to rebuild after England's early World Cup exit, reports AP.

Botham has been named an observer, along with Leicestershire coach Jack Birkenshaw, the English Cricket Board announced Tuesday. The Board is also looking for a new coach in succession to David Lloyd who has stepped down.

Botham, now working as a television analyst and commentator, will report to England's selection panel of David Graveney, Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting.

## Asian lesson

From page 16  
an Aussie, he wears the baggy cap, and when he saw the bookies cash, he said I'm having that."

Pakistan and India's forces clashed in a blaze of colour and noise at Old Trafford on Tuesday, a few weeks after military clashes on the nations' disputed border. It was a surprisingly good-natured affair.

Their songs, for the most part, do not have the irreverent tone of the English songs.

"India zindabadi" — "Long live India" — and "Pakistan zindabadi" are staple fare. "Hai hai Pakistan" — "Down with Pakistan" — and "Hai hai India" are equally popular.

One chant laced with humour, however, has been making the rounds with both Pakistani and Indian supporters.

Pakistan's hard-hitting, hefty Inzamam-ul Haq — nicknamed "alo" or potato — has become a cult figure at the tournament, interspersing match-winning innings with farcical run-outs.

"Run, Inzie, Run," has become a favourite crowd encouragement for the Pakistani batsman.

Inzamam-ul Haq may not like it — armed with a bat, he tried to attack a fan in the crowd a few years ago after being baited through a megaphone but at least he hasn't got the Army on his back.

Phones, spouses did the damage?

From page 16  
ing the vote.

The board has remained in uncertainty with the court suspending Sunil Patel and his fellow elected office bearer and later reinstating them pending a final verdict.

Cricket board officials said they had sought police protection for the seven team members who returned to the country last Friday together with four officials.

However, there were no fans to meet the players in sharp contrast to 1996 when they were given a heroes' welcome after winning the final against Australia to grab the World Cup for the first time.

The Sunday Times carried a picture of Sanath Jayasuriya greeted by a group of constables deployed to prevent possible violence against the team. The headline for the picture read: "Zero welcome for hero."

Meanwhile, skipper Arjuna Ranatunga has vowed to continue playing despite calls for his ouster.

Ranatunga who stayed back in England and was spared the frosty reception at the Colombo International Airport said in a statement sent here that he wished to play on.

"What I do wish to say is that it is my firm belief that I do have a few years of cricket left in me and if my services are wanted I am willing to represent my country in whatever capacity," he said.

## BATTING, BOWLING SO FAR

London, June 9 (Reuters): Top batting and bowling performances at the World Cup after Tuesday's match between India and Pakistan

(Denotes not out)

BATTING

183 — Saurav Ganguly (India) v Sri Lanka, May 26, Taunton.

145 — Rahul Dravid (India) v Sri Lanka, May 26, Taunton.

140\* — Sachin Tendulkar (India) v Kenya, May 23, Bristol.

104\* — Rahul Dravid (India) v Kenya, May 23, Bristol.

100 — Ajay Jadeja (India) v Australia, June 4, The Oval.

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.

83 — Mark Waugh (Australia) v India, June 4, The Oval.

82 — Maurice Odumbe (Kenya) v Sri Lanka, May 30, Southampton.

81\* — Younus Youhana (Pakistan) v Scotland, May 20, Durham.

81 — Inzamamul Haq (Pakistan) v Australia, May 23, Leeds.

80\* — Roger Twose (New Zealand) v Australia, May 20, Cardiff.

80\* — Ridley Jacobs (West Indies) v New Zealand, May 24, Southampton.

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.

76 — Neil Johnson (Zimbabwe) v South Africa, May 29, Birmingham.

75 — Robin Singh (India) v Australia, June 4, The Oval.

BOWLING

5 for 14 — Glenn McGrath (Australia) v West Indies, May 30, Manchester.

5 for 21 — Lance Klusener (South Africa) v Kenya, May 26, Amstelveen.

5 for 27 — Venkatesh Prasad (India) v Pakistan, June 8, Manchester.

5 for 31 — Robin Singh (India) v Sri Lanka, May 26, Worcester.

5 for 35 — Saqlain Mushtaq (Pakistan) v Bangladesh, May 31, Northampton.

4 for 7 — Chris Harris (New Zealand) v Scotland, May 31, Edinburgh.

4 for 17 — Allan Donald (South Africa) v England, May 22, The Oval.

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 37 — John Blain (Scotland) v Bangladesh, May 24, Edinburgh.

4 for 40 — Wasim Akram (Pakistan) v Australia, May 23, Leeds.

4 for 42 — Neil Johnson (Zimbabwe) v Kenya, May 15, Taunton.

4 for 56 — Debadish Mohanty (India) v Kenya, May 23, Bristol.

4 for 64 — Geoff Allott (New Zealand) v Pakistan, May 28, Derby.

TOP RUN-GETTERS

Rahul Dravid (India) 432

Saurav Ganguly (India) 350

Sachin Tendulkar (India) 237

Mark Waugh (Australia) 229

Gavin Hamilton (Scotland) 217

Lance Klusener (South Africa) 209

Ajay Jadeja (India) 206

Jacques Kallis (South Africa) 205

Ridley Jacobs (West Indies) 11

TOP WICKET-TAKERS

Geoff Allott (New Zealand) 18

Lance Klusener (South Africa) 14

Glen McGrath (Australia) 13

Saqlain Mushtaq (Pakistan) 13

Allan Donald (South Africa) 11

Darren Gough (England) 11

Courtney Walsh (West Indies) 11

Turning points

MANCHESTER, England, June 9 (AFP): Ten key moments during India and Pakistan's World Cup Super Six clash here on Tuesday:

\* Sachin Tendulkar, facing his third delivery from Shaheen Akhtar in the fourth over, edges in the air through gully. Akhtar, however, has no one posted there.

\* Tendulkar plays back to Shaheen Akhtar in the sixth over and the ball goes through for two runs, giving the Indian his 8,000th one-day international run.

\* Tendulkar smashes his bat into the ground in fury after hitting Azhar Mahmood straight to wide mid off after making 45.

\* Mohammad Azharuddin, scoreless for 18 balls, hits Saqlain Mushtaq for six over long-on to re-fire the innings. He makes 59, his highest score in the tournament.

\* Saeed Anwar pulls the first ball of the innings off Javagal Srinath for four to square leg, setting the tone as 34 come off the first five overs.

\* With the score on 41 for one, Ijaz offers an absolute sitter but is put down at short mid-on by Ramesh at the third effort. Three runs later, however, he is snappled up at second slip.

\* Anwar, on 36, is superbly caught at slip by a diving Azharuddin off Venkatesh Prasad to make it 65 for four.

\* Moin Khan hits 33 of a 46-run stand with Inzamam-ul Haq when Prasad, returning for his second spell, has him caught at fine leg off his second delivery.

\* Prasad traps swinging Inzamam leg-before to make Pakistan 175 for eight in the 44th over.

\* Wasim Akram falls, caught at square leg off Prasad, to seal India's 47-run win, only their second over Pakistan in 11 meetings.