

## Bits &amp; pieces

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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 equalling 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 David Wharmby, 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 Wharmby, 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.

Wharmby, 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 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 at 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

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sive, very tentative in their cricket.

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

Pakistan, who have slipped back to second favourites 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.

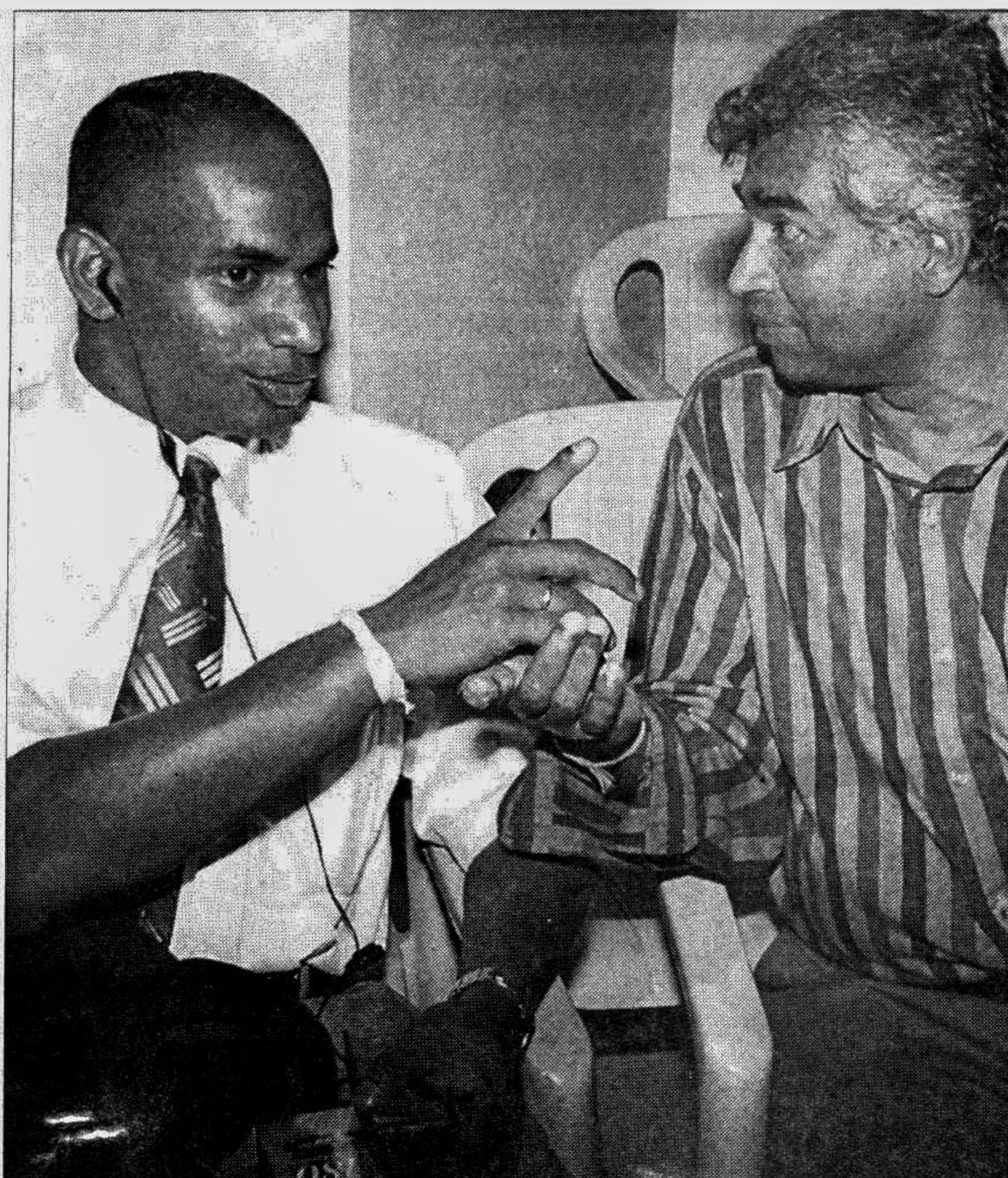
The loss of the injured Yousuf Youhana, clearly left a big hole in the batting.

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 scrape 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 Birkinshaw, 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

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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 edge of the English songs.

"India zindabad" - "Long live India" - and "Pakistan zindabad" are staple fare. "Hai hai Pakistan" and "Dhai dhai Pakistan" 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 "aloo", 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 Barmy Army on his back.

Phones, spouses did the damage?

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ing the vote.

The board has remained in uncertainty with the court suspending Sumathipala and his fellow elected officer 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 Jadhav (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\* — Yousuf 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 23, Taunton.  
 4 for 56 — Debashish 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) 210  
 Ajay Jadhav (India) 209  
 Jacques Kallis (South Africa) 206  
 Ridley Jacobs (West Indies) 205

**TOP WICKET-TAKERS**  
 Geoff Allott (New Zealand) 18  
 Lance Klusener (South Africa) 14  
 Glenn McGrath (Australia) 13  
 Saqlain Mushtaq (Pakistan) 13  
 Allan Donald (South Africa) 12  
 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 Shoaib Akhtar in the fourth over, edges in the air through gully. Akram, however, has no one posted there.**

\* **Tendulkar plays back to Shoaib Akhtar in the sixth over and the ball goes through point 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 snapped 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.**

## English cops praise fans

MANCHESTER, June 9: Isolated scuffles broke out between small groups of Indian and Pakistani fans at Old Trafford here on Tuesday after their cricket World Cup encounter, reports AP.

But police said the event had been "trouble-free," adding two people were arrested on suspicion of throwing bottles but were later released.

A spokesman said: "Everything has been fine... the fans have behaved themselves."

## End of Indian monopoly

LONDON, June 9 (Reuters): Mark Waugh ended India's monopoly of century making at the World Cup in Australia's Super Six match against Zimbabwe at Lord's on Wednesday.

His hundred came off 115 balls and included 13 fours.

All five previous centuries in the tournament had been scored by Indian batsmen, the highest being Saurav Ganguly's 183.

Waugh eventually fell for 104 in the 43rd over, leaving Australia on 248 for five.

## Youhana's WC in doubt

MANCHESTER, England, June 9: Pakistan's batting strength suffered big setback on Tuesday when injured Yousuf Youhana was rushed to London for treatment before Tuesday's World Cup Super Six match against India, reports AP.

Youhana's troublesome hamstring has now kept him out of three matches.

Pakistan manager Zafar Altaf said Youhana had been sent to London for treatment from a muscle-injury specialist and will remain under his observation until complete recovery.

"It was felt that Youhana needed specialist treatment," Altaf said. "We are hopeful of his joining the team again after an early recovery."

But a source close to the Pakistan team said Youhana's recovery during the World Cup would be a major surprise.

"We are paying the price of drafting him into the playing eleven despite the injury needing more rest," he said. "He may not play any more role in Pakistan's World Cup campaign."

Youhana, 24, is Pakistan's most compact middle-order batsman but has been hampered by hamstring injuries for the past six months.

He was rested for two first round group matches against New Zealand and Bangladesh after the hamstringing again flared up, but came back to play the crucial Super Six league match against South Africa.

Recalling Youhana before complete recovery from injury proved costly as he aggravated the hamstringing injury and needed a runner midway through his knock. Pakistan lost the match and, to make things worse, he was again injured.

## Azhar smiles at last

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wickets at both ends. It was not a big score but I didn't think any of our bowlers should get confused or panic. We just kept our cool and bowled wicket-to-wicket."

Pakistan, after their flying start to the tournament, have now lost three matches in succession, starting with the shock against Bangladesh, followed by the defeat by South Africa and now India.

"Our batting is struggling a bit," admitted Akram. "We're going through a bad patch, but we've been winning for six months."

## Look out for Lance

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making it increasingly hard for the

Natal all-rounder to see how far he could push Klusener.

But he is genuinely concerned about the lack of runs from the top five batsmen, and the failure of the opening pair of Gary Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs in particular.

New Zealand have three points to South Africa's four. A win would see them on the brink of the semi-finals with one more game against India at Trent Bridge.

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming said he was confident following the tight one-day series between the two sides in February-March, which South Africa won 3-2.

"South Africa are tough and we had a great series with them in New Zealand, probably coming down to one ball," he said, referring to a last-ball six hit by Klusener which settled one of the matches.

"We are still pretty confident of doing well against these guys. We have got some good experience against them and we've competed well against them."

At least the Kiwis have one consolation - they were the last international side to claim the highly prized Klusener scalp.

They dismissed him on February 17 in Napier, when Allott had him caught by Roger Twose for a duck. But New Zealand still lost the match.

Three days later, in Auckland, Klusener set off on his record run spree with 103 not out as a pinch-hitting number three.

## Fans are foes

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Urdu, which is similar to Hindi that most Indian cricketers speak.

"We use the same language. We even use the same bad language," he said.

But on the field, not an inch is given. Everybody is charged and every player gives his best when it comes to Pakistan," he said.

"When you talk to them (the Pakistanis) they also say the same," he said.

"Adrenaline is flowing and temperament counts a lot in an India-Pakistan match," he said.

Given the history of enmity between the two countries - they have fought three wars since 1947 - no other match produces such passions as their cricket clash. For supporters, national honor is at stake in a vicarious war. Jubilation at a victory extends into the night and tears flow freely at a loss.

"There is nothing comparable to this," Vengsarkar said.

Cricket being one of the few arenas where the two countries have relations, the game has been used as a diplomatic tool.

Late president Ziaur Rahman of Pakistan came to India to watch an India-Pakistan test match in 1987, which led to a little thawing in relations.

In a bid to improve relations, the Indian government reigned in a Hindu fundamentalist group that had threatened to disrupt Pakistan's Test tour earlier this year.

The Tests were held without trouble but India-Pakistan relations plunged against last month following military skirmishes in the disputed region of Kashmir.

## Euphoric press

NEW DELHI, June 9: India's victory over arch-rival Pakistan in the cricket World Cup was feted Wednesday here by an ecstatic media with martial imagery, reports AP.

"Pak falls to India's line of control," screamed The Pioneer newspaper in reference to the official name of the India-Pakistan border in Kashmir where fighting has been raging for a month in the mountains.

"India triumph in game of death," the Hindustan Times proclaimed, as the Asian Age said "Reborn India kill Pak."

The Times of India remained relatively sedate and merely headlined a "cliff-hanger" victory.

India's 47-run win Tuesday in Manchester, England - only their second over Pakistan in 11 meetings - gave them their first points in the Super Six league. India scored 227 for six and then brilliantly dismissed their arch rivals for 180 in the second-round match at Old Trafford.

However, India must also beat New Zealand by a big margin at Trent Bridge on Friday to have a chance of qualifying on run rate for the last four.

The Indian Express announced that it was party time in India.

"Party away! Feel the warm glow. Wake up feeling good. Savour the moment make it last," it said.

The Asian Age resorted to martial imagery.

"India now wait for other

pieces of the jigsaw puzzle to fall into place to win the war," it said.

The win was greeted in Kashmir with gunfire by Indian soldiers, who have been fighting infiltrators for the past month whom New Delhi describes as being Pakistan-backed Moslem guerrillas and regular Pakistani soldiers.

The Times of India said an India-Pakistan cricket encounter always had an element of "deja vu," but added in the same breath that the latest match was "as nerve-wracking as ever."

The Statesman newspaper shed its traditional reserve, saying India had "won a prestige battle" while the Hindustan Times declared: "Victory over Pakistan was sweet: what was sweeter was that India retained a mathematical chance of entering the semi-finals."

The victory was heralded by an Indian army colonel in Kashmir, who said it was a morale-booster for troops engaged in the month-long artillery duel with guerrilla infiltrators.

"This is a fantastic win and it will keep us going," the colonel said, adding that the conflict zone of Kargil had intensified before the cricket match.

The rest of India was also jubilant, with reports of people taking to the streets, dancing and setting off fire crackers in New Delhi, Calcutta, Bangalore and Bombay.

## HEAD-TO-HEAD

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South Africa won an away Test series 1-0 and the one-dayers 3-2 on their tour of New Zealand in February-March.

In the drawn first Test, Daryll Cullinan made South Africa's highest Test score of 275 not out. The second Test was also drawn after two days were lost to rain. Herschelle Gibbs was also unbeaten 211 and Jacques Kallis a career-best 148 not out in a second-wicket stand of 315. South Africa won the third by eight wickets. Cullinan again in the runs with 152.

The fourth one-dayer remained in the memory because of Lance Klusener's last-ball six that gave South Africa a two-wicket win.

## 1999 WORLD CUP RESULTS

**South Africa:** Beat India by 4 wickets, bt Sri Lanka by 89 runs, bt Kenya by 7 wickets, bt England by 122 runs, lost to Zimbabwe by 48 runs. Super Six - beat Pakistan by 3 wickets.

**New Zealand:** Lost to Pakistan by 62 runs, bt Australia by 5 wickets, lost to the West Indies by 7 wickets, beat Bangladesh by 6 wickets, beat Scotland by 6 wickets. Super Six - no result against Zimbabwe.

## PREVIOUS WORLD CUPS

They have played twice, each winning one. New Zealand triumphed at home in 1992 when South Africa, playing their first Cup, were restricted to 190 for seven. The Kiwis won by seven wickets thanks to Mark Greatbatch's 68. Four years later in Pakistan, South Africa won by five wickets. New Zealand were shot out for 177. Allan Donald taking three, and Hansie Cronje made 78.

## VENUE

Edgbaston. Home of county side Warwickshire and a regular Test centre. The ground where Brian Lara made 501 not out against Durham in 1994, the highest individual score in first-class cricket. Will also host a semifinal on June 17. Capacity: 17,000 (AFP).

## Waiting to be swamped

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reporter from Johannesburg? Dare one speculate the cause, sequence, but the press in Bangladesh has been very courteous and patient with BCB's first Director of Coaching.

It is not within my knowledge what poverty has to do with cricket. Or else, how has the West Indies been for decades one of world's most favourite and successful cricket team?

For Greenidge bared to the English journalist.

"It (Bangladesh) is a poor country, and they feel under pressure. But, in reality, despite being not so rich, his West Indies brought every wealthy nation that played cricket to its knees."

There indeed seems to be lack of communication between the BCB and its director, Greenidge said to his English car after the match against Pakistan. "I regret I did not complete my job in Bangladesh as I wanted to do."

It would mean he was no more in employment. But, the BCB in Dhaka claimed that Greenidge has been removed as the World Cup coach for "overstepping" and that he was still the Director of Coaching.

In the days of E-communication, this is quite regrettable.

If Greenidge ever agreed to talk to this correspondent, there would be two questions with which to start off the discussion:

1. Why did he not resign? The problem is Greenidge now insists he told the cricket board of his resignation last autumn (that would be around September-October in Bangladesh) and that he was asked to stay on until the end of the World Cup.

2. Why would he not toe the official BCB line about seeking Test status? After all he was a paid employee. If he disagreed and it was demeaning for him to say what the BCB insisted on saying, he could easily have resigned.

Just as no Bangladesh journalist could dig anything out from him against his will, no one could possibly compel him to stay on as the Director of Coaching if he did not so wish.