

Cheers down under

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enormous admiration for our team because they were being bucketed, they were being written off and only a couple of weeks ago people were talking about them being out of the final six and definitely not in the semifinals.

He nominated captain Steve Waugh as the key to Australia's triumph.

"I think the real turning point for the team and the thing that made last night possible in the first instance and really sets us up to win on Sunday was Steve Waugh's century in the encounter last weekend," he said, referring to Waugh's match-winning 120 not out.

"That is the best one-day innings I have seen, not only for the circumstances in which he batted but also for the pressure that he was under.

"An I would like to join, I am sure, millions of other Australians in congratulating the team in wishing them luck for Sunday.

"I can assure you I will be watching every ball."

Labour opposition leader Kim Beazley joined Howard in congratulating the team.

"Congratulations to Steve Waugh and the boys, a fantastic outcome," he said. "An unbelievable game, I've not seen one like it."

Run-out, oh no!

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batsman Gary Kirsten's weekly column.

The headline, "Easily the emptiest day of my career," summed up what was to come.

"What a day! I honestly never believed it was possible to feel as empty as this," a mournful Kirsten wrote.

"I have experienced disappointment before, but nothing has ever -- or will ever -- leave me feeling like this again.

"It was the biggest match of our lives and we responded to the occasion as well as the pressure, and at this stage I cannot even speak let alone begin to write about my feelings and the emotions we experienced in the closing stages of the match.

"I know life, and the game, goes on. But, at present, I cannot imagine getting over this.

"There was so much to lose. Everything, in fact. No-one remembers losing finalists, let alone semifinalists.

Radio talk shows have also reflected the nation's mourning, with most callers choosing to commiserate with their team.

"Hansie and the boys deserve nothing less than a heroes' welcome, they have done us proud," a woman caller said.

Another recited a stanza from Grantland Rice's famous poem: "For when the one great scorer comes to write against your name he will ask not whether you won or lost, but how you played the game."

Born again enchanter

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Thr 29-year-old wasn't concerned about the constant criticism.

"The ball has been coming out pretty good (throughout the tournament)," he said. "I had a couple of off games but that's the nature of one-day cricket."

"Today it was all or nothing..... I don't think I've bowled better in a one day game than today.

"I think I'm getting back to the way I used to bowl. So I think that quashes any thoughts that my shoulder has gone or that I'm no good and all that sort of things."

By the end of his first spell - eight overs, four maidens, 12 runs for three wickets - he was being applauded at the end of each of his mesmerising overs.

The only people not clapping at Edgbaston were the batsmen, as they clung to their crease by their fingernails, praying for survival.

Nor was Gattling. The England selector, busy elsewhere, missed the Gibbs dismissal but must surely have made a point of watching the television highlights on Thursday evening.

Warne was to end with figures of 10-4-29-4 over an extraordinary final over in his spell in which he conceded 14 runs.

Jacques Kallis, bamboozled by Warne's flight and spin, was dropped first ball by Paul Reifel at mid-off. The batsmen ran three. Shaun Pollock then smashed a six and a four before taking a single for the fourth.

With the fifth ball, Kallis attempted to hit Warne over the top, but his shot straight at Steve Waugh at cover.

"Someone had to produce a good spell and Warne was the man," Waugh said. "He's a genius."

Warne said Australia was yet to produce their best form in this World Cup, despite winning eight of their 10 matches, and he issued a warning to Pakistan: "Look out in the final."

Contrasting

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we had to really dig deep," said the man who was only one win away from his predicted seventh title to lift the World Cup.

Rain may delay proceedings to decide that, London forecasts have Sunday morning as cloudy and humid with rain. It is supposed to clear around noon, which could mean a late start to anything from a few minutes to an hour.

Afternoon conditions, however, will remain fine and fresh with scattered clouds and sunny spells. It is unlikely that the final will have to continue till Monday because of the weather.

If Sunday's match is modelled after the weather with fluctuating fortunes, then the final between two of the World's greatest sides promises to be truly glorious.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

LONDON, June 18 (AFP): Who said what during the 1999 cricket World Cup: "I don't know about morals, I'm here to win the World Cup. They make the rules, we have to do as we see fit."

Australian captain Steve Waugh after his decision to bat slowly against the West Indies to try and eliminate New Zealand.

"Brian Lara has done extremely well but he can't bat for the whole team. There's nothing wrong with his captaincy. We are not far off from being a decent side."

West Indies team manager Clive Lloyd after the team's first-round exit.

"I almost feels like playing at home but that has been the case here in England for a long time. Asians love the cricket. The English, I think, are a bit more inclined towards football."

Mohammed Azharuddin after India's victory over England at Edgbaston.

"He had Australia for breakfast, lunch and dinner."

India coach Anshuman Gaekwad on Sachin Tendulkar, who hit three consecutive centuries against the Green caps last year.

"It's not the Pakistan players we fear, but the fans."

Indian captain Mohammed Azharuddin ahead of their politically-sensitive match at Old Trafford.

"It's only a game, after all."

Pakistan cricket captain Wasim Akram appeals for calm before the match against India.

"It's not up to us any more. We don't want pushing and shoving while some idiot, who's had 26 points, tries to waste the time of us."

A World Cup umpire after declaring they did not want to be responsible for protecting camera-stumps from fans during pitch invasions.

"I've just got a bad knee, ankle, groin and back. I'm an old man now."

29-year-old Zimbabwean Neil Johnson, after limping his way to 132 not out against Australia.

"Run, Inzie, run!"

Pakistan fans to Inzamam-ul Haq, a notoriously bad runner between the wickets.

"I haven't a clue when I was last out. World record, no, I didn't know. What world record? Wow, that's good, thanks."

South African Lance Klusener on being informed he had overtaken Javed Miandad's record of 395 runs without being dismissed.

"When he grows older, he will learn it's not all about being fast."

South Africa captain Hansie Cronje after Pakistan pace sensation Shoaib Akhtar conceded 17 runs in the last-gasp defeat to the South Africans.

"I heard that even during practices, the player were using their mobile phones. They behaved as if they could not function without cellular phones."

Sri Lankan cricket board chief Thilanga Samathipala after the team's early World Cup exit.

"I've been saying he's the best off-spinner ever that I've seen, and he showed that again today by taking a hat-trick."

Wasim Akram after Saqlain Mushtaq ended the Zimbabwean innings and the game with only the second hat-trick in World Cup history.

"I'm really not sure what people want from him. If they want to try and take the guy down and lose one of Australia's greatest ever cricketers, they're going the right way about it."

Steve Waugh on press criticism of Shane Warne.

"Sometimes teams get written off too early, sometimes too much is written about some sides ... Other teams should be more concerned about us."

Steve Waugh on press criticism of his team before they qualified for the semifinals.

"You can't blame Gibbs, it happens."

South African skipper Hansie Cronje after Herschelle Gibbs dropped Steve Waugh off a sitter.

The Australian captain went on to make 120 not out and win the game, depriving South Africa of an easy semifinal against Zimbabwe.

"Put the ball in your pocket next time you take a catch and don't take it out until the batsman has gone."

Gibbs' father Herman advising his son on the phone from Cape Town.

"Waugh's innings will go down as one of the great tours de force of this or any World Cup and the premature celebration of his would-be captor Herschelle Gibbs one of its great gaffes."

The Daily Mail on Steve Waugh's unbeaten 120 and Gibbs' dropped catch.

"We were quite happy getting Pakistan because they can fluctuate much more than South Africa and Australia. They can be absolutely brilliant but there are other times when they are not at their best."

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming before his side's 9-wicket semi-final annihilation by Pakistan.

"I wasn't out, you can see it clearly."

South African captain Hansie Cronje after being given out caught off the boot in the semi-final tie against Australia.

"I saw his side knocked out of the tournament."

He was out — just read tomorrow's papers.

Steve Waugh on Cronje's dismissal.

"We are far more mature than that to blame one person."

Cronje after Allan Donald was run out after a mix-up with Lance Klusener with two balls of the semifinal remaining.

"It was phenomenal. We can't believe it yet, even after seeing the action reply of the last few balls. I said to Cronje: 'Bad luck, it's a cruel game.'"

I almost feel sorry for South Africa, they must be distraught. But we never gave in."

Steve Waugh.

Murali magic continues

LONDON, June 18: Lancashire's Sri Lankan spin wizard Murali Muralitharan took four wickets on Thursday, to give him 10 in the match, against Surrey to hand his side a chance of a remarkable win in the English County Championship, reports AFP.

Unbeaten Surrey looked to be cruising towards their target of 157 as Mark Butcher and Ian Ward put on 78 for the opening wicket until Muralitharan struck.

Both fell to Muralitharan in the 40s, to take his tally in the innings to 4-42, and with fellow spinner Gary Keedy chipping in with two wickets Lancashire were still in the hunt with their opponents on 121 for six.

If Lancashire manage to pull off a win on Friday they will also owe a huge debt to Warren Hegg.

The wicketkeeper scored a season's-best 94 to guide his side to 260 after they looked dead and buried at 157 for seven. Surrey paceman Alex Tudor adding to his growing reputation with a haul of four for 81.

Elsewhere Sussex and Warwickshire wrapped up wins over Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire respectively with a day to spare.

Sussex's hero was opener Richard Montgomerie as the former Northamptonshire man scored his second century of the season to inspired his side to a five-wicket victory at Headingley.

Montgomerie reached his ton off 190 balls, and by the time he was run out for 110 his side were within touching distance of their 237 target.

A second-wicket stand of 147 with captain Chris Adams (58) proved decisive as Sussex overcame the loss of three late wickets which reduced them to 216 for five to reach their goal off 71.5 overs.

Yorkshire's final three wickets had added 33 runs before they were all out for 157, Jason Levy finishing with four for 59.

Warwickshire secured a remarkable fourth championship win in five games as they successfully prevented Nottinghamshire reaching a victory target of just 132 at Trent Bridge.

Four wickets apiece from former Sussex paceman Ed Giddings, who was sacked by the county two years ago following revelations of drug taking, and Tim Munton dismissed Notts for 76 in 30.5 overs for a 55-run success on a day which saw 18 wickets fall.

The visitors had earlier rallied from 66 for seven to 142 all out as another former Sussex player Vaseb Drakes claimed six for 39 to finish with a match return of 12 for 110.

The West Indian was well supported by Paul Franks, who took four for 52, but unfortunately their batting colleagues were unable to take advantage with first-innings century-maker Chris Read out for just a single this time.

Darren Maddy struck an unbeaten 80 as defending champions Leicestershire powered to 228 for three in their second innings to establish a lead of 251 against Hampshire.

David Mills' four for 47 had helped dismiss Hampshire for 382, which included 60 from Adrian Aymes.

WC AT A GLANCE

LONDON, June 18 (AFP): Leading individual and team performances after the semifinals of the cricket World Cup:

BATTING

Top run-makers

461 — Rahul Dravid (India)

398 — Steve Waugh (Australia)

379 — Saurav Ganguly (India)

367 — Neil Johnson (Zimbabwe)

353 — Saeed Anwar (Pakistan)

341 — Herschelle Gibbs (South Africa)

338 — Mark Waugh (Australia)

330 — Ricky Ponting (Australia)

318 — Roger Twose (New Zealand)

312 — Jacques Kallis (South Africa)

285 — Ajay Jadeja (India)

281 — Lance Klusener (South Africa)

264 — Michael Bevan (Australia)

253 — Sachin Tendulkar (India)

240 — Saeed Anwar (Pakistan)

239 — Inzamam-ul-Haq (Pakistan)

Top individual scores

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

132* — Neil Johnson (Zimbabwe) v Australia, June 9, Lord's

120* — Steve Waugh (Australia) v South Africa, June 13, Headingley

113* — Saeed Anwar (Pakistan) v New Zealand, June 16, Old Trafford

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

104 — Mark Waugh (Australia) v Zimbabwe, June 9, Lord's

103 — Saeed Anwar (Pakistan) v Zimbabwe, June 11, The Oval

101 — Herschelle Gibbs (South Africa) v Australia, June 13, Headingley

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

BOWLING

Top wicket-takers

20 — Geoff Allott (New Zealand)

17 — Lance Klusener (South Africa)

16 — Shoaib Akhtar (Pakistan)

16 — Saqlain Mushtaq (Pakistan)

16 — Glenn McGrath (Australia)

16 — Allan Donald (South Africa)

14 — Wasim Akram (Pakistan)

13 — Azhar Mahmood (Pakistan)

13 — Abdul Razaq (Pakistan)

13 — Damien Fleming (Australia)

12 — Neil Johnson (Zimbabwe)

12 — Mark Mullyally (England)

12 — Mark Ealham (England)

Top match figures

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

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

5-27 — Venkatesh Prasad (India) v Pakistan, June 8, Old Trafford

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

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

5-36 — Shaun Pollock (South Africa) v Australia, June 17, Edgbaston

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

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

4-25 — Courtney Walsh (West Indies) v Bangladesh, May 21, Dublin

4-29 — Shane Warne (Australia) v South Africa, June 17, Edgbaston

4-32 — Allan Donald (South Africa) v Australia, June 17, Edgbaston

4-34 — Darren Gough (England) v Kenya, May 18, Canterbury

4-37 — Alan Mullyally (England) v Sri Lanka, May 14, Lord's

4-40 — John Blair (Scotland) v Australia, May 20, Cardiff

4-40 — Wasim Akram (Pakistan) v Australia, May 24, Edinburgh

4-42 — Neil Johnson (Zimbabwe) v Kenya, May 23, Leeds

4-46 — Mervyn Dillon (West Indies) v New Zealand, May 24, Southampton

HIGHEST TEAM TOTALS

373-6 — India v Sri Lanka, May 26, Taunton

329-2 — India v Kenya, May 23, Bristol

303-4 — Australia v Zimbabwe, June 9, Lord's

287-5 — South Africa v New Zealand, June 10, Edgbaston

282-6 — Australia v India, June 4, The Oval

275-8 — Pakistan v Australia, May 23, Headingley

275-8 — Sri Lanka v Kenya, May 30, Southampton

272-5 — Australia v South Africa, June 13, Headingley

271-7 — South Africa v Australia, June 13, Headingley

269-8 — Pakistan v Zimbabwe, June 11, The Oval

265 — Australia v Pakistan, May 23, Headingley

LOWEST TEAM TOTALS

68 — Scotland v West Indies, May 27, Leicester

103 — England v South Africa, May 22, The Oval

110 — West Indies v Australia, May 30, Manchester

Sri Lanka v South Africa, May 19, Northampton

116 — Bangladesh v New Zealand, May 17, Chelmsford

121 — Scotland v New Zealand, May 31, Edinburgh

123 — Zimbabwe v Pakistan, June 11, The Oval

Kiwi tour to England from June 21

LONDON, June 18: The start of the New Zealand cricket team's tour of England has been delayed a day so that the tourists can attend the World Cup final at Lord's on Sunday, reports Reuters.

Their four-day fixture against British Universities at The Parks in Oxford will now start next Monday, June 21, instead of Sunday.

That is because the New Zealand team have been invited to attend the World Cup final along with the other beaten semi-finalists.

The tour will include four Tests, the first starting at Edgbaston on Thursday, July 1.

ITINERARY

June 21-23: v British Universities, at The Parks, Oxford.

June 25-28: v Somerset at Taunton.

July 1-5: v England, 1st Test, at Edgbaston.

July 7: v Sri Lanka 'A', at Milton Keynes

July 9-12: v Yorkshire at Headingley (or v Hampshire at Southampton (4 days))

July 15-18: v Kent at Canterbury (4 days)

July 22-26: v England, 2nd Test, at Lord's

July 28: v Derbyshire, Derby (or v Gloucestershire, Bristol)

July 30-Mon 2: v Leicestershire at Leicester (or v Warwickshire at Edgbaston)

Aug 5-9: v England, 3rd Test, at Old Trafford

Aug 11: v Middlesex, at Southampton

Aug 13: v Essex, at Chelmsford (or v Northamptonshire at Northampton)

Aug 19-23: v England, 4th Test, at The Oval.

Bits & pieces

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Shane Warne his third of four wickets.

Television replays seemed to show the ball had come off his boot, not his bat, before being caught by Mark Waugh at slip.

"I wasn't out, you can see it clearly," Cronje said after the game.

He went for a two-ball duck as South Africa lost four top-order wickets for 13 runs, slipping to 61 for four.

Waugh said he felt "almost sorry" for the South Africans after they tied the game on 213 runs each, thus missing the final.

"It was a shame somebody had to lose that game," he said. But that commiseration, apparently, did not extend to his opposite number.

STRAUSS SUPPORTS WHOM?

PERTH, June 18 (AP): For Tiaan Strauss, at least, a tie was the perfect result.

The former South African rugby captain scored a hat-trick of tries on his Australian debut last weekend but found himself battling confusion while watching the thrilling World Cup cricket semifinal between his old country and his new one.

Strauss and teammate Jason Little woke up most guests at their Perth hotel in the early hours of Friday morning as they followed the fluctuating cricket game on television.

"Whenever one team got on top I'd say to Jason, 'we're doing well' and he'd say 'who do you mean we this time?'" said Strauss.

"It was strange, you can't just forget your past, there's still a lot of feeling there. I was neutral."

There was no other topic of conversation among the Wallabies at breakfast Friday morning, with Saturday's second Test against Ireland taking a back seat.

"It certainly was inspirational stuff," captain David Wilson said. "We sent them a message during the week wishing them the best of luck, it was a great result for Australia and hopefully we'll have a good result as well on Saturday."

Cronje

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cause no team until Thursday had been able to defend 10 runs in the last over.

Still, he said he is proud of the way his team played in the tournament — it won seven of its nine matches before the semifinals.

"We are proud of the fact that we turned an away cricket around in South Africa," Cronje said.

"We had to work extremely hard to be where we are today and we will only be satisfied once we win a World Cup."

Wasim full

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"I knew it was only a matter of time before Saeed Anwar came good because he is the world's best batsman and I always believed in him, even when he was not getting big scores earlier in the tournament."

Ali Ahmed also looked good against New Zealand, which was also a relief, and Wasti is looking better day by day.

Akram, the only bowler to achieve the double of 350 Test and one-day wickets, said Pakistan had the firepower to beat any side.

"Shoaib Akhtar has shown that pace is important in one-day cricket and he always reminds me of Waqar Younis in the early 1990s," Akram said of the 95-miles-an-hour bowler.

"Waqar was consistently quick and getting loads of wickets. Shoaib is on a learning curve - he is ready for the final."

Akram added: "We know in the final that the white ball will reverse-swing in the middle and at the end of the innings - anyone chasing six an over against us will find it very difficult."

Results summary

UNDATED, June 18 (AP): Following is a summary of results so far in the cricket World Cup:

FIRST ROUND

May 14 at Lord's
England (207-2) def Sri Lanka (204) by 8 wickets.

May 15 at Hove
South Africa (254-6) def India (253-5) by 4 wickets.

At Taunton
Zimbabwe (231-5) def Kenya (229-7) by 5 wickets.

May 16 at Worcester
Australia (182-4) def Scotland (181-7) by 6 wickets.

At Bristol
Pakistan (229-8) def West Indies (202) by 27 runs.

May 17 at Chelmsford
New Zealand (117-4) def Bangladesh (116) by 6 wickets.

May 18 at Canterbury
England (204-1) def Kenya (203) by 9 wickets.

May 19 at Northampton
South Africa (199-9) def Sri Lanka (110) by 89 runs.

At Leicester
Zimbabwe (252-9) def India (249) by 3 runs.

May 20 at Cardiff
New Zealand (214-5) def Australia (213-8) by 5 wickets.

At Chester-le-Street
Pakistan (261-6) def Scotland (167) by 94 runs.

May 21 at Dublin
West Indies (183-3) def Bangladesh (182) by 7 wickets.

May 22 at The Oval
South Africa (225-7) def England (103) by 122 runs.

At Worcester
Sri Lanka (198-6) def Zimbabwe (197-9) by 4 wickets.

May 23 at Bristol
India (329-2) def Kenya (235-7) by 94 runs.

At Leeds
Pakistan (275-8) def Australia (265) by 10 runs.

May 24 at Southampton
West Indies (158-3) def New Zealand (156) by 7 wickets.

At Edinburgh, Scotland
Bangladesh (185-9) def Scotland (163) by 22 runs.

May 25 at Nottingham
England (168-3) def Zimbabwe (167-8) by 7 wickets.

May 26 at Amsterdam
South Africa (153-3) def Kenya (152) by 7 wickets.

At Taunton
India (373-6) def Sri Lanka (261) by 157 runs.

May 27 at Leicester
West Indies (70-2) def Scotland (68) by 8 wickets.

At Chester-le-Street
Australia (181-3) def Bangladesh (178-7) by 7 wickets.

May 28 at Derby
Pakistan (207-8) def New Zealand (207-8) by 62 runs.

May 29 at Chelmsford
Zimbabwe (233-6) def South Africa (185) by 48 runs.

May 30 at Birmingham
India (232-8) def England (169)

by 63 runs

At Southampton
Sri Lanka (275-8) def Kenya (230-6) by 45 runs.

At Manchester
Australia (111-4) def West Indies (110) by 6 wickets.

May 31 at Edinburgh
New Zealand (122-4) def Scotland (121) by 6 wickets.

Bangladesh (223-6) def Pakistan (161) by 62 runs.

STANDINGS				
Group A	Team	P	W	D
X	— South Africa	5	4	0
	— India	5	3	0
	— Zimbabwe	5	3	0
	— England	5	3	0
	— Sri Lanka	5	2	0
Y	— Kenya	5	0	0
	— Group B	P	W	D
	— Pakistan	5	4	0
	— Australia	5	3	0
	— New Zealand	5	3	0
Z	— West Indies	5	3	0
	— Bangladesh	5	2	0
	— Scotland	5	0	0
	X-advanced to the Super Six.			

SUPER SIX

June 4 at The Oval
Australia (282-6) def India (205) by 77 runs.

June 5 at Nottingham
South Africa (221-7) def Pakistan (220-7) by 3 wickets.

June 6 at Leeds
Zimbabwe (175) vs New Zealand (70-3) suspended — darkness.

June 7 at Leeds
Zimbabwe vs New Zealand, cancelled.

June 8 at Manchester
India (227-6) def Pakistan, (180) by 47 runs.

June 9 at Lord's
Australia (303-4) def Zimbabwe (259-6) by 44 runs.

June 10 at Birmingham
South Africa (287-5) def New Zealand (213-8) by 74 runs.

June 11 at The Oval
Pakistan (271-9) def Zimbabwe (123) by 148 runs.

June 12 at Nottingham
New Zealand (238-5) def India (251-6) by 5 wickets.

June 13 at Leeds
Australia (272-5) def South Africa (271-7) by 5 wickets.

STANDINGS

Team	P	W	D	L	PFPts
S — Pakistan	3	1	0	2	4
S — Australia	3	0	0	0	6
S — South Africa	3	2	0	1	6
S — New Zealand	3	1	1	2	5
Zimbabwe	3	0	2	4	5
India	3	1	0	2	0

S-advance to semifinals.

SEMIFINALS

June 16 at Manchester
Pakistan (242-1) def New Zealand (241-7) by 9 wickets.

June 17 at Birmingham
Australia (213) drew with South Africa, 213-all out.

Australia advance by having won previous encounter.

FINAL

June 20 at Lord's
Pakistan vs Australia.

WC FINALS

1975: West Indies beat Australia by 17 runs.

1979: West Indies beat England by 92 runs.

1983: India beat West Indies by 43 runs.

1987: Australia beat England by 7 runs.

1992: Pakistan def England by 22 runs.

1996: Sri Lanka def Australia by 7 wickets.

FAI fined

GENEVA, June 18: The Football Association of Ireland (FAI) was fined 50,000 Swiss francs (32,000 dollars) on Thursday for not playing their European championship qualifier against Yugoslavia on June 5, reports Reuters.

UEFA's control and disciplinary committee also recommended that any costs incurred by the Yugoslav national team or by UEFA should be met by the FAI.

The match, scheduled for Dublin, was called off when the Irish government refused to grant visas to the Yugoslav team because of the Kosovo crisis.

UEFA said the fine would be donated to a charitable organisation of its choice and the game should be played at a later date once logistical details had been clarified.

"We're happy with the decision," FAI president Pat Quigley said. "We shouldn't mix politics and sports. This is what the players on both teams wanted — to play the match."

FAI chief executive Bernard O'Byrne said, "The Association will have to suffer the financial burden but we are happy that the game will go on in Dublin."

Today's Cryptopuzzle: W equals M

The Cryptopuzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Turning points

EDGBASTON, England, June 18 (AFP): Ten key moments in Australia's World Cup semi-final with South Africa here on Thursday:

+ **Mark Waugh goes for a duck, caught behind asShaun Pollock produces a lifter that follows the right-hander and brushes his glove, making it three for one.**

+ **Allan Donald's first ball accounts for Ricky Ponting, who drives loosely to cover and is caught by Gary Kirsten. Kirsten throws the ball up in celebration - but only after a respectable delivery.**

+ **Donald, with his sixth delivery, has Darren Lehmann fencing at a lifter, the edge caught by wicket-keeper Mark Boucher to make it 58 for three.**

+ **Adam Gilchrist top-edges a cut to third man to fall to Jacques Kallis, as three wickets tumble for 14 runs.**

+ **Pollock removes key man Steve Waugh and Tom Moody within four balls in the 40th over to make it 158 for six.**

+ **Pollock wraps up the innings by removing Michael Bevan for 65, becoming only the second South African to take five wickets in a World Cup match.**

+ **Herschelle Gibbs is bowled by a Shane Warne delivery that spins out of the rough outside his leg stump and clips the top of the off stump to make it 48 for one.**

+ **Warne gets his third wicket as Hansie Cronje is given out, caught at slip - replays suggest the ball hit his boot. Warne bowls three maidens in four overs, giving him figures of three for three. He finishes with four for 29.**

+ **Klusener hits two fours off start of final over from which South Africa need nine.**

+ **With scores tied on 213 and one wicket standing Allan Donald is run out after mix-up with Klusener. Australians explode in jubilation.**

Thrilling 12 balls

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flicking the ball to Fleming before he even hits the ground.

Klusener charges past Donald and on towards the changing rooms. Donald belatedly sets off but Fleming has already tossed the ball to Adam Gilchrist who whips off the balls.

End situation: Donald run out for nought without facing a ball, Klusener not out 31.

Each side dismissed for the same score of 213. Australia qualify thanks to their higher Super Six position.

Hansie Cronje: "I felt in control right until the last run out. The way things have been going for Lance we all felt we would get there."

Steve Waugh: "We're ecstatic but relieved. It's called inner strength and belief in your team mates. We can overcome any sort of adversity."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Mountain-
eers
5 — de deux
8 Harbor
12 Mandil-
kova of
13 Chic no
14 Erstwhile
15 The gamut
16 Tackle
17 Admit
18 Misplay at
20 Suitable
22 Luxurious
26 Seat of
29 Apiece
30 Strive
31 Bloom
Country
32 "Scout-
hearted"
33 Cattle
calls?
34 Hr. fraction

DOWN

2 part
3 Mr. Chaney
4 author
5 Fre-H.S.
6 11 Uncouth
7 Diamond
9 Burn some
21 Like some
2 Assess
3 Any time
23 La Scala
now
4 Summer-
houses
5 Acted (as)
6 Diving bird
7 Add starch
8 Schroe-
der's prop
9 Broadway
angel
10 "The Name
of the
category
33 Blunder
35 P.M.
period
36 Winter
woe
38 Gibson
garnish
39 "Ghosts"
playwright
42 MP's prey
43 50th state
bird
44 Dutch treat
45 Chart
46 Dander
48 Conceit

CRYPTOQUIP

X O Z A B Z B M S W N T S I U
T U B J T U X N L O S I T Q B I
F O B D D U A A B X I N F O U J J Z
Q J U U ? S W L Q M W D U A

Yesterday's Cryptopuzzle: "WOW," CRACKED THE DOCTOR. "I NEVER EVEN KNEW THE DEAD SEA WAS SICK!"

Today's Cryptopuzzle: W equals M

The Cryptopuzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.