ond-round record. Akram added: "I think Australia are a good side. It's impressive, how they have won six games in a row here. But we are mentally tougher.

"If they are confident, then we are even more confident." Waugh responded: "That's a laugh, isn't it? No. I think we are the toughest side going around. That's why we are the top Test side.

"We are a professional side. If we are mentally weak, we would have succumbed by now." Wasim Akram's side go into the final after easy wins over Zimbabwe and New Zealand in the semi-final. Pakistan also benefitted from an extra rest

day before Sunday. Waugh said, however, that many of Pakistan's batsmen had not had a proper innings for a week, which could prove a disadvantage.

Some of Australia's players trained on Friday, while others opted to rest before a full session on Saturday.

The record books confirm that Australia are a side that never accept defeat. Their 'tied victory' here should be ranked as the small-

est margin of victory ever seen in the competition. The next smallest victory margin, by one run, also saw Australia winning as they defeated India in Madras in 1987. The next closest match was again won by the Australians

three runs in India in 1987. The New Zealanders have also won a World Cup game against Zimbabwe by that mar-

as they beat New Zealand by

And the closest final ever seen, inevitably, went to Australia. They beat England in the 1987 showpiece by seven runs. It was during that tournament that a young Steve Waugh had earned the nickname of "The Iceman" for his coolness under

Lightning assassin

From page 13

He said on Friday: "I don' mind him bowling at 90mph against Australia so long as he gets five wickets."

However, Shoaib has been advised by some former Pakistan Test players to bowl at full throttle in Sunday's World Cup

"His opening spell may turn out to be decisive. I think he should fire on all cylinders. said Aaquib Javed who took two wickets in Pakistan's 1992 World Cup final win over Eng-

"He is world's fastest bowler and Lord's will be the perfect stage for him to cement his reputation," said former off-

spinner Tauseef Ahmed. "It is the last match of the World Cup. His speed is the major difference between the two teams. There's no point if he or Pakistan don't benefit from God's gift in the crunch match." said Iqbal Qasim, another former slow bowler.

But former Pakistan captain Fazal Mahmood, a fast medium bowler, said 'line and length' should definitely come first.

"I think it's Wasim Akram who should decide whether Akhtar should go all guns blazing or concentrate on accuracy.

There is no denying the fact that he is a match-winner who takes big wickets at crucial stages of the game," he said.

Mahmood who took 139 wickets in 34 Tests, added: There should be no pressure on him. He has gone through all the testing experiences of his life. The Lord's game should be just another match for him. Aaquib, whose seven for 37

against India is the best return in international one-day cricket, said it was Akhtar's role to take wickets. "He is young, strong, ener-

getic and quick. He should exploit things to his advantage and bowl as fast as he can. He is basically a strike bowler whose job is to get wickets no matter if he even goes for some runs."

Test of toughness From page 13

120 days. If we were weak 1 think we would have succumbed before now." Playing psychological games

is just one of many weapons in Pakistan's armoury in the build-up to the game, although one of their most potent threats gave a pre-Final scare with Saeed Anwar missing an impromptu training session at

The brilliant left-hander, who has scored centuries in successive matches against Zimbabwe and New Zealand, missed the session with a virus - but Wasim insisted: "He will be okay for Sunday - there is nothing seriously wrong."

Geared-up McGrath

From page 13 McGrath has twice turned up trumps for his side when it mat-

tered most in the tournament. In a critical group B match against West Indies at Old Trafford he produced a beautiful delivery to beat Brian Lara's defensive stroke and bowl the

great left-hander for nine. Then in the opening Super Six game against India at The Oval McGrath found some bounce with another perfect ball to have Sachin Tendulkar

caught behind without scoring. Both McGrath and Shoaib have 16 wickets in the tourna-

ment, four behind the leading tally of New Zealand's Geoff Allott, but the Australian has the best analysis of five for 14 against West Indies. With Australia and Pakistan each seeking to win the World

Cup for the second time their two attacking spearheads could play a central role in deciding the outcome of one-day cricket's showpiece occasion.

Stage set for final showdown DEATHREE BUILDES

From page 13

superbly talented players that are hardened both physically and mentally. That is what the war of

words is all about. Wasim Akram fires the first salvo, "To have to win to get to the semi-finals and then to get to the final must be tough. It will be our advantage. We are mentally tougher." It is returned straight away

by Steve Waugh, "That's a laugh, isn't it? If we are mentally weak, we would have succumbed by now." Steve, who was in Alan Border's winning side of 1987, said,

"We are well prepared for a tough game." The two captains were only carrying on what the rival supporters started since Australia

so dramatically reached the final after last Thursday's tied semi-final at Edgbaston with pre-tournament favourites South Africa.

While the Australians may be blamed for lack of creativity as they shouted 'Aussie! Aussie! Aussie! Go, go, go!', the Pakistanis responded. Wish you happiness till next Saturday'. Not even till Sunday morning! And of course the ever-so-familiar. 'Pakistan jitega' (Pakistan will

win) yell. They booed and jeered each other as they passed on the road, always with a ring of laughter. It was all

good-natured fun. On a more serious vein, Steve Waugh, reflecting on the Lahore loss

disclosed, "We did not really do our homework. We were a bit complacent

after a great semi-final, thinking it was going to happen

again.' Waugh announced, "This time it will be different. Pakistan are an excellent side, but we are better prepared to get up for this game.

Counter from Wasim Akram, "We don't have to think the opposition is tough - just that we are better than them."

"If we play to our full potential we can win it and it looks as if everything is falling into proper place for the final," said the innovative captain. Wasim was talking as a cap-

tain who wants to win to fulfil the prayers of millions of cricket fans back in Pakistan and the world over. Returning as captain for how many times even Wasim 'did not remember'. the amiable speedster who was losing his fuel, has been instrumental in bringing about team spirit and harmony qualities not always attributed to the Pakistan squad.

Despite the hype, Australia externally said they were not worried about Shoaib Akhtar's pace. "It's the reverse swing that's going to be difficult." admitted Waugh.

Wasim would not disagree, "We know in the final that the white ball will reverse-swing in innings, and anyone chasing six-an-over against us will find it very difficult."

Steve Waugh said they would rely on South Africa's enviable record against Pakistan. "South Africa have beaten

Pakistan the last 13 times. "That suggests that the way they play must be the right way. If we can put some of those plans to play, we have a good chance.

Wrist-spinner Shane Warne. who demolished the West Indies at the Mohali semi-final in 1996 and again turned the 1999 semi-final in Australia's favour in a replica performance at Edgbaston, was also brimming with confidence. Fat boy Warne said, "I reckon now we are destined to win the World Cup. I am absolutely con-

vinced." As summer finally arrived in England, there is a degree of cricketomania in the air. A Pakistani taxi-driver put up a flag on his car antenna and grimly went about his duty. Another stuck his body out of his car's sun-roof and made a big grin while holding aloft the green-and-white flag; he was too happy even to talk. Others put up signs on their car window, "Have you got a ticket for the final?'

Incidentally, hundred pound tickets for the final are going at thousand a piece, and is expected to rise further. An English lady at a bus stop did not agree to the offer made by a few Pakistanis who were desperate for tickets. As they left, she said, "I am going to sell them for more than a thousand."

what Steve Waugh described as 'the great escape'. Along with the waving of their flag, they are sometimes seen with a cuddly kangaroo in one hand and more often with a pint of beer in another. Some Pakistani sup-

still kept the Bangladesh flag flying in full glory. And, alas! All these could have been South Africa's, the

supreme favourites. But the failure of South Africa to qualify despite living up to their billing till breasting the tape is the sort of pickle that makes every World Cup so memorable, so special. As it turned out, the sides were separated by a net run-rate difference of 0.19 after one of the most sensational cricket matches in history.

Australia have an erratic World Cup record, although they were winners in 1987. They featured in the first final at Lord's in 1975, but were eliminated at group stage at both the 1979 and 1983 World Cups. Most surprisingly, their fate did not illuminate in 1992 when they were joint hosts with New

by 3-0. The third fixture saw them win after scoring a world record second-innings of 316 for four, with Adam Gilchrist and Ricky Ponting both scoring centuries.

AUSTRALIA: Coach - Geoff Marsh. Captain - Steve Waugh. Akram.

Australia: Beat Scotland by 6 wkts, lost to Pakistan by 10 runs, lost to New Zealand by 5 wkts, bt Bangladesh by 7 wkts, bt West Indies by 6 wkts. Super Six - beat India by 77 runs, bt Zimbabwe by 44 runs, bt South Africa by 5 wkts. Semifinal - tied with South Africa and qualified for final on faster run-rate in qualifying

Pakistan: Beat New Zealand by 62 runs, bt Australia by 10 runs, New Zealand by 9 wkts.

They have met five times, with Pakistan having won three 10 runs.

VENUE

by a weather vane depicting Old Father Time. The home of MCC, the International Cricket Council (ICC) and English county side Middlesex. The site was established in 1814. The ground slopesfrom one edge to the other by seven feet. Capacity: 30,000 (AFP).

the middle and end part of the

match-fixing in one-day inter-

Waugh said the episode be-

There's no extra motivation

Pakistan who meet in Sunday's final at Lord's.

Steve Waugh — 120 not out v South Africa

Saeed Anwar — 113 not out v New Zealand

Saqlain Mushtaq — 5-35 v Bangladesh

Wasim Akram — 4-40 v Australia

Mark Waugh — 104 v Zimbabwe

Glenn McGrath — 5-14 v West Indies

Shane Warne — 4-29 v South Africa

nationals has gone on.

Best individual scores

Leading run-scorers

Leading wicket-takers

Steve Waugh — 398

Mark Waugh — 338

Leading catchers

Ricky Ponting - 5

Best individual scores

Leading run-scorers

Inzamamul Haq — 239

Shoaib Akhtar —16

Leading catchers

Leading wicket-takers

Anwar — 103 v Zimbabwe

Mark Waugh — 5

Best bowling

Warne — 16

McGrath —16

Best bowling

Anwar — 353

Saglain — 16

Akram — 5

Inzaniam — 5

longed to the past.

captain Wasim Akram refused to discuss the match-fixing allegations casting a shadow over his future here on Friday as he prepared for Sunday's cricket

have been rigged in past sea-

Commentators have suggested that Akram's suggestions that he could quit the sport might be linked to the outcome of the inquiry.

Friday: "The World Cup final is "As for retiring, I haven't

istan's opponents Australia, also refused to enter into the debate. He said stories about bad blood between the two sides belonged to the past.

"It (the match-fixing allegations) has nothing to do with us," Waugh said.

"Whatever happens in Pakistan, that's up to their judicial system to work out. If nothing happened, then they'll go on playing international cricket." The first allegations of

match-fixing came from Australian players. Shane Warne was one of three players who said they had been offered money by Malik to throw a Test in Karachi in 1994.

on the issue due to lack of evidence, despite some players

Pak fans in

party mood

Internet): Cricket-mad Pak-

istan was in an upbeat mood

and ready to party on Saturday ahead of the World Cup final

banners, posters and huge por-

peated at Makkah of cricket,"

read one poster while another said: "The World Cup is ours."

the 1992 World Cup final in

Melbourne, setting off country-

screens have been set up in dif-

ferent parts of Karachi for fans

who do not have televisions.

wide celebrations.

traits of the Pakistan players.

Fans thronged Karachi with

"Melbourne history to be re-

Pakistan beat England in

More than two dozen giant

against Australia at Lord's.

KARACHI, June 19 (Reuters/

LONDON, June 19 (AFP): Australia v Pakistan one-day records ahead of the cricket World Cup final at Lord's on Sunday: OVERALL

Played 50, Australia won 25, Pakistan won 22, one tie, two no results.

RECENT RECORD (1994-99)

Oct 30, 1994, Lahore: Australia won by 64 runs. Australia won series 2-1 Nov 6, 1998, Karachi: Australia won by 86 runs. Nov 8, 1998, Peshawar: Australia won by 5 wkts.

Nov 10, 1998, Lahore: Australia won by 6 wkts.

Australia won series 3-0 In Australia World Series Cup Dec 15, 1996, Adelaide: Pakistan won by 12 runs. Jan 1, 1997, Sydney: Pakistan won by 4 wkts.

The Australians are over the moon to be in the final after

porters do not lack far behind.

Several shop and house windows now sport a Pakistani or an Australian flag. For that matter, some have

Zealand.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Australia had a remarkable tour to Pakistan last year, when they won the three-Test series 1-0, then clean-swept the one-dayers

PAKISTAN: Coach — Mushtaq Mohammad. Captain — Wasim

1999 WORLD CUP RESULTS TO DATE

bt the West Indies by 27 runs, bt Scotland by 94 runs, lost to Bangladesh by 62 runs. Super Six - lost to South Africa by 3 wkts, lost to India by 47 runs, bt Zimbabwe by 148 runs. Semifinal - bt

WORLD CUPS

matches and Australia two. In 1987, Australia had won and gone on to take the title, beating England in the final. In 1992, Pakistan won — and went on to take the title, also beating England. In the current tournament, Pakistan beat Australia in the first round by

Lord's, regarded as the home of English cricket and dominated

ESSENTIAL NUMBERS

LONDON, June 19: World Cup statistics for Australia and

AUSTRALIA

PAKISTAN

to Proteas from within Pakistan claiming playing Pakistan. Those things

happened in the past," he said.

"We shouldn't live our lives in

the past. You have to get on with

your life. We are not focusing on

the problems of the past."

LONDON, June 19: Pakistan

World Cup final, reports AFP. "I don't think that's a fair question," he said before Sunday's showdown with Australia. A judicial inquiry in Pakistan is investigating several players, including World Cup squad members Akram, Ijaz Ahmed and Salim Malik, following claims some results

It is expected to report soon. Pakistan officials also refused to answer questions, saying the evidence against the

players was "secondary."

But the all-rounder said on the biggest match of my life.

taken a decision yet." Steve Waugh, captain of Pak-

A series of investigations, however, have failed to decide

RECENT RECORDS

In Pakistan Oct 14, 1994, Multan: Australia won by 7 wkts. Oct 22, 1994, Rawalpindi: Pakistan won by 9 wkts.

Jan 7, 1997, Hobart: Pakistan won by 29 runs. Jan 16, 1997, Melbourne: Australia won by 3 wkts.

Singer Trophy, Sri Lanka Sept 7, 1994, Colombo: Australia won by 28 runs. World Cup May 23, 1999, Leeds: Pakistan won by 10 runs. Australia lead 7-5 during 1994-99.

Pakistan, regarded as most multi-talented as well as being thoroughly unpredictable, won the trophy in 1992 defeating England. Six of that squad will be at Lord's. They are regulars in the semi-finals, having missed out only in 1975 and

1996. Australia must scent a conquest on account of an earlier win against Pakistan by ten runs in a Group match. They must also derive some encouragement from Pakistan's defeat to Bangladesh and South Africa.

Pakistan will be animated because Australia lost to New Zealand whom they wiped clean off the board. It's going to be a battle and

millions across the world

would be watching The Australian Prime Minister John Howard, up until 4 AM to see the semi-final on television, has requested employers to be understanding if someone Down Under turned up late on Monday morning. Knowing the sub-continent, Pakistan can expect a national holiday if they clinch a victory.

semi-final so very flatteringly against New Zealand. "We only play four regular batsmen plus all-rounders. But the team is full of talent, and everyone knows what they have to do," said the Pakistan cap-

Pakistan is expected to name

the same side that won the

Australia are not likely to make any changes either.

So much popular pride and sporting prejudice are at stake that the Winners' Prize money of US\$ 300,000 and half of that for the losers have taken backstage. Engulfed by billboards and suited sponsors the players may be, but the teams are now singularly focused on the next one hundred overs. Or less, only Duckworth-Lewis can tell.

Both nations are from the supposedly weaker Group B. Both have previously won the cup once. Pakistan on Australian soil in Melbourne and the Aussies in Calcutta. Australia know the pains of a Lord's defeat. Pakistan are hungry and eager to dispel the taint of the forever-nagging bribery scandal.

This a fracas to find out who would be the first after West Indies to win the Cup twice. Both are confident of victory. Only one will find out at the expense of the other come Sunday at Lord's.

SQUADS AUSTRALIA (probable): Adam Gilchrist, Mark Waugh, Ricky Ponting, Steve Waugh (capt), Darren Lehmann, Michael Bevan, Tom Moody, Shane Warne, Paul Reiffel, Damien Fleming, Glenn Mc-

PAKISTAN (probable): Saeed Anwar, Wajahatullah Wasti, Ijaz Ahmed, Inzamam-ul Haq, Shahid Afridi, Moin Khan, Abdul Razzag. Wasim Akram (capt). Azhar Mahmood, - Saglain Mushtag, Shoaib

Steve's tribute

LONDON, June 19: Australian World Cup captain Steve Waugh has paid ousted semi-finalists South Africa a huge compliment, saying he would steal their tactics for the final against Pakistan, reports AFP. Waugh, whose side beat South Africa in the second round, then tied with them in the semi-finals to make the

Lord's showpiece on Sunday,

said: "South Africa have beaten Pakistan the last 13 times. "That suggests the way they play must be the right way. If we can put some of those plans into play, we have a good chance." South Africa beat Pakistan at the World Cup by three wick-

ets and six balls to spare at Trent Bridge on June 5. Australia, however, lost to Wasim Akram's side by 10 runs in the first round at Headingley. Those two games, along with the two Australia-South Africa confrontations, have produced high quality cricket and the most dramatic finishes of the

tournament. South Africa's victories against Pakistan, stretching back five years, have usually been based on their bowlers' ability to create early inroads through the Pakistani top or-

Donald recollects the tragic end

BIRMINGHAM, England, June 19: South African paceman Allan Donald said on Friday he never heard the call for a run that cost South Africa a place in the World Cup final, reports Reuters.

Last man Donald was run out off the fourth ball of the final over in Wednesday's tied semifinal with Australia at Edgbaston when the South Africans needed only one run to

His fatal mix-up with Lance Klusener produced the most dramatic finish in the history of the tournament as the Australians clinched their place in Sunday's final against Pakistan by virtue of finishing higher in the second round Super Six table.

Target tiredness

From page 16 It was during that tournament that a young Steve Waugh earned the nickname of "The Iceman" for his coolness under

It will take perhaps their

greatest performance of all

time, however, to beat Akram's rejuvenated Pakistan. While Akram had time to plan Australia's defeat a Lord's, Waugh admitted: " haven't even thought about Pakistan. We're still numb.'

LONDON, June 19 (AFP): Australia vs Pakistan cricket World Cup final head-to-heads:

PAKISTAN

Saced Anwar: Left-hand opener. Aged 30. Regarded as the team's top batsman, he had a hesitant start but then came into his own with centuries in his last two matches. He made 103 against Zimbabwe and 113 not out in the semifinal against New Zealand. Pakistan's leading scorer with 353 runs in nine matches.

Points: 9 'Wajahatullah Wasti: Righthand opener. Aged 24. A solid batsman who made his international debut earlier this year against India. Played four matches, with a best of 84 in the semifinal against New Zealand when he put a tournament record first-wicket stand of 194 with Anwar. Has stepped in to fill the breach left by the injured Yousuf Youhanna.

Points: 8 Abdul Razzaq: All-rounder. Right-hand batsman and rightarm seamer. Aged 19. A surprise success. Prospered in the pinch hitter's role at number three when the tournament began, making 60 against Australia, 33 against New Zealand and 30 against South Africa. Has been demoted to the lower order but has shone as a bowler with 13

Points: 8 Ijaz Ahmed: Right-hand batsman. Aged 30. A hard-hitting, impulsive strokemaker, his style has enjoyed mixed success, making 51 against New Zealand and 36 against the West Indies in first-round matches but collecting two ducks as well. Likes to go over the top, as he did in the semi-final against the Kiwis when victory was in sight. A man for the big occasion. His captain Wasim Akram says he is beginning to look at his best.

Points: 7 Inzamamul Haq: Right-hand batsman. Aged 29. The burly 6ft 2ins player has scored 239 runs in eight innings, including 81 against Australia. Mixes delicate, late strokes with massive power. But his poor running between the wickets has cost the team dear. He has been run out twice and has run out several of his teammates. Points: 8

Shahid Afridi: Attacking right-hand batsman, leg spinner. Aged 19. The scorer of the fastest one-day century in history, off 37 balls, has not managed to shine at the top of the order in English conditions. Loves to hit in the air and on the up. Wasim Akram's decision to drop him lower down the order was justified when Afridi came good against Zimbabwe. cracking 37 off 38 balls. Bowls fast, flat leg spin.

Points: 6 Moin Khan: Wicket-keeper, right-hand batsman Aged 28. Pakistan's vice captain has been in terrific form with the bat, making 236 runs. His best of 63 off 58 balls against South Africa helped Pakistan recover from 118 for five. Nearly all his runs have been hit at more than a run a ball. Is playing with a broken finger, but still keeps well to both fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar and off spinner Saqlain

Mushtaq. Points: 9 Wasim Akram (capt): Allrounder. Left-hand batsman, leftarm fast bowler. His inspiring captaincy has both united and lifted the team. Now gets his chance to emulate his mentor Imran Khan's feat of winning the 1992 World Cup. The only bowler to take 350 wickets in both Test and one-day cricket, he has shone with his hard-hitting batting in the early matches. Has also taken 14 wickets.

Points: 9 Azhar Mahmood: All rounder, right-hand batsman. right-arm seamer. Aged 24. One of the more promising cricketers in Pakistan, has impressed with both bat and ball. Scored 37 and then took three for 48 against the West Indies to win the man-of-the-match award. He also took three for 38 against New Zealand and three for 24 against South Africa. Quicker than he looks, he generates sharp movement both ways off the seam.

Points: 8 Saqlain Mushtaq: Off spinner. Aged 22. Regarded as the best one-day bowler in the world. Has taken 16 wickets from eight matches with a lower-order hattrick against Zimbabwe — only the second in World Cup history — and five for 35 against Bangladesh.

task

1 Snapshot

34 The Mac-

Donald

place

36 Reacts to

37 Alphabet

40 Missing

41 Jester

ized list

35 Fortune

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

RENEGENFINE

PEEN

Yesterday's answer

effort

ACROSS 42 Best man's 3 With little a draft

Bowls excellent floaters and slower balls. His stint with English county Surrey has given him vital experience of local

conditions. Points: 9 Shoaib Akhtar: Right-arm fast bowler. Aged 23. The fastest bowler in the world and a sensation at the World Cup. Has been timed at 95 miles and hour, on his way to 16 wickets in nine matches. Was at his best in the semi-finanal against New Zealand when he removed two batsmen with his express speed and a third with the slower ball. He is, however, prone to spray his end-of-in-

Points: 9 Team total: 90

nings spells.

AUSTRALIA

Mark Waugh: Right-hand opener, occasional off spinner. Aged 34. An elegant batsman, he has found some of his form in recent matches, the trademark on drives and flicks beginning to flow. After a hesitant start, he made 83 against India and 104 against Zimbabwe, becoming Australia's highest oneday run-scorer on the way. Has scored 338 runs in nine games but failed to score in the semifinal against South Africa.

Points: 8 Adam Gilchrist: Left-hand opener, wicket-keeper. Aged 27. As a top-order pinch-hitter he hit an Australian one-day record of 154 just before the tournament but the moving white ball and seaming wickets have undermined his free-flowing style. He has made 170 runs in nine matches, with a top score of 60 against Bangladesh. Neat, however, behind the

Points: 7 Ricky Ponting: Right-hand batsman, occasional seam bowler. Aged 24. Nicknamed "Punter". Has settled down well here in the pivotal numberthree slot. Put on 126 with captain Steve Waugh in the second round match against South Africa, before being dismissed for his highest score of 69. Made 37 in the semifinal. One of the quickest fielders in the team and adept at direct hits. Points: 8

Darren Lehamann: Lefthand batsman, left-arm spinner. Aged 29. And intelligent one-day player but has not done anything of note in the tournament, a lone success a 69 coming against New Zealand. Missed the second-round clash against the South Africans after his left index finger was split open against Zimbabwe. Returned for the semifinal and made a single before falling to Allan Donald. Points: 7

Steve Waugh (capt): Righthand batsman, right arm medium pace. Aged 34. Nicknamed "The Icemen." There is no tougher cricketer in the business than the Australian captain. His magnificent 120 not out against South Africa earned his team a semi-finanl berth and he made a half-century in the rematch. Australia's leading scorer in the tournament with 398 runs. Shoulder and groin problems have restricted his bowling, however.

Points: 9 Michael Bevan: Left-hand batsman, left-arm wrist spinner. Aged 29. One-day cricket's leading innovator, the ideal man to organise run chases in the 'slog' overs. By his standards, this World Cup was a disappointment, till he top-scored with 65 in the semifinal. He has scored 264 from eight innings in the tournament. Usually he chips and chases a run each ball. Has looked uncomfortable here against genuine pace. Points: 8

Tom Moody: Right-hand batsman, right-arm seamer. Aged 33. The only player besides his captain to be part of Australia's World Cup triumph in 1987, although he did not play in the final. A late inclusion in the team, he has been in terrific form lower in the order. He has an average of 117 runs after being dismissed for the first time in the tournament when Shaun Pollock trapped him leg-before for a duck in the semifinal. He has also taken five wickets. He was brought into the side after missing the first three games, since when Australia have remained unbeaten in six games.

Points: 7 Shane Warne: Right-arm leg spinner. Aged 29. Has denied reports said he was planning to retire because of relentless media pressure. Taken 16 wickets at under four an over despite be-

21 Rational

ing off colour. Found his touch in the second-round clash against South Africa when he took two for 33 in 10 unchanged overs, then produced his very best in the semifinal against the same team, with three wickets in eight balls for no run. Finished with four for 29.

Points: 9 Paul Raiffel: Right-arm medium-fast bowler, useful right hand batsman. Aged 33. "Pistol Pete" was regarded as the ideal foil for Glenn McGrath's pace in English conditions, but he has taken just six wickets in five matches. Remembered more for downing a pigeon with a throw from the boundary line during Australia's match against India. In the semi-finals, he dropped two catches and scored a duck but canelled that out with a wicket and a key-run-out.

Points: 6 Glenn McGrath: Right-arm fast bowler. Aged 29. The pace spearhead, after a hesitant start, has found awesome form after coming to terms with the white, swinging ball. The breakthrough came with five wickets for 14 against the West Indies, including the ball of the tournament, a leg-cutter to Brian Lara that took the top of

his off stump. Has 16 wickets. Points: 9 Damien Fleming: Right-arm seamer. McGrath's new-ball partner, has provided good support with 13 wickets. Has had two three-wicket hauls so far. the last one in the second-round match against the South Africans in the slog overs. Has found sharp swing with the new ball. In the semifinal against South Africa, he was asked to bowl the final over to Lance Klusener, who hit him for two consecutive fours before getting

run out with the scores level. Points: 8 Team total: 86

Bits and

pieces From page 13

Donald, who was out without scoring, also attracted plenty of attention from the headline writers for his part. "Daffy Donald Duck" was one headline that gave the cricket thriller a Disney Theme.

TIME TO RECOVER

BIRMINGHAM, England, June 19 (AP): South African skipper Hansie Cronje, devastating by South Africa's elimination from the World Cup following a dramatic last-over tie against Australia in Thursday's semifinal, says he'll need time out to consider his future in the

"I'm not saying yes or no to anything but you need to have time to decide these things," said Cronje, who took over as

captain in 1994-95 at the age of "I've got a three-month break now. It's time to do some soulsearching, to sit down and see where we are. I think it would be very foolish to make decisions

at the end of a season and after a close game like that."

Fear of catastrophe

From page 16 Northampton after Pakistan's

defeat to Bangladesh; or even

before.

Earlier, Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin was very much shaken by crowd trouble at Hove when he was shoved and abused by a drunken fan after losing to South Africa in a Group match. He found contradiction in their large following and having 'to run away from

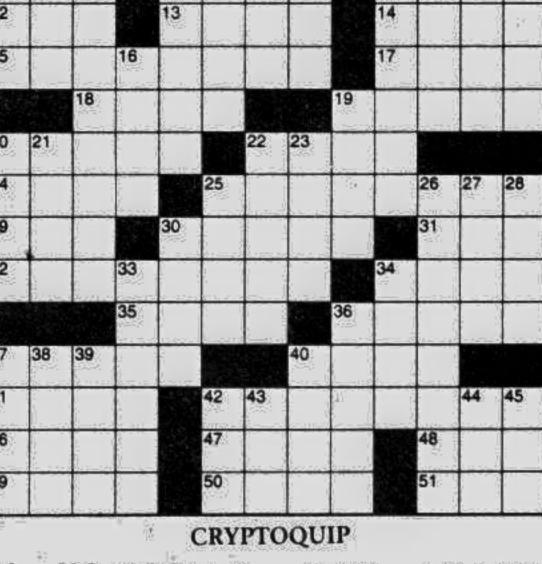
them after the match'. It's ridiculous, he thought, that even before the last wicket falls, players have to think of how quickly to return to the safety of the pavilion.

ing that because tickets have been sold out well in advance, a mixed crowd is likely. That is why police are trying to rigorously check black-marketing, although there is fat chance anybody will give up his ticket unless the original intention

Organisers at Lord's are hop-

was criminal As per the condition of sale, resold tickets become automatically invalid.

Exuberant Pakistan supporters, who are perhaps not aware of it, are turning every stone to look for a ticket. As are many Australians. If many of them manage to get hold of tickets, the carnival of cricket could end in a catastrophe.



DCS ACSEY GBZG AZMFMPJ XSWJSP GBPFW XWPD YCVVPYED.

locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

BOSOMEPERETRY
OPUSEMENEMOOS
MINEAIREFIRST
Girl?
40 Trails the pack
A 1 R F 1 R S T Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHY DO YOU IMAGINE GEORGE WASHINGTON CHOPPED DOWN A CHERRY TREE? I'M STUMPED. ANTEBBUTANE 43 Insepa-Today's Cryptoquip clue: V equals G The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one 44 Ultramodletter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it ernist will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short 45 Earthy words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to

4 "God's 46 Auction-4 Thespian 22 Meager Little —' eer's cry 5 Goatee's 23 Former 8 Fishhook 47 "Bus Stop" 25 Witnessed place 6 Scamper feature 26 Braggado-12 Bustle 48 Maiden-7 Early bird? 13 Down all 8 Wild name 27 Italian at once indicator uproar bread 14 Duel tool 49 Panhandle 9 "...black-28 "Desire 15 Oven's job birds Under 17 Seedy 50 Disarray baked in the -" 51 Moo tavern 30 Roman 18 In due time 10 Guns the gai pan 909 19 Sanctify DOWN 33 Ferdiengine 20 Moving 1 Tiger 11 Honey nand's 22 Antitoxins Woods bunch missus 24 Hoosegow 16 Dirt 34 John L 25 Create 2 "-- not 19 Highland Sullivan's choose to anagrams hillside 29 Miller or 20 Admitting 36 American Jillian Solution time: 26 mins. 30 Stop 37 In which 31 Tin Man's FM VPMPWZE, need A T O Z S K I A V OW 39 Material 32 Troop