on Australia

KARACHI, Jan 22: Former Pakistan captain imran Khan said Monday Australia's overall talent made them favourites in the upcoming Test series against India, reports AFP.

"Australians play with an attacking mindset and have allround abilities which make them favourites in India." Imran told this news agency.

"They have an all-round bowling attack -- their fast bowlers are excellent backed up with spin bowlers."

Australia play three Tests and five one-day internationals in India starting from February

But Imran, now a politician. said Steve Waugh's allconquering side could not be compared to the greatest Test teams ever.

"I don't agree they are the all-time greatest side. My alltime great side was the West Indies under Clive Lloyd who had a battery of match winning bowlers," he said.

Australia have won a record 15 Tests in a row, mostly against weaker sides at home and Waugh has said he is willing to put the team's reputation on the line in India.

"Steve Waugh has instilled a confidence in the team and any new player breaking into the Aussie side is brimming with confidence and knows he is playing for world champions. lmran said.

Australia won the 1999 World Cup and has since lost only one Test, against Sri Lanka in August 1999.

"Pakistan and South Africa are two teams who can catch them anytime," Imran added, however

Proteas rout

From page 13 Test had been a big blow.

Sangakkara, promoted to open the batting in place of outof-form captain Sanath Jayasuriya. was Sri Lanka's lone hero Monday. He was last man out for 98 and was unlucky not to score his first Test century when he was given out lbw to Makhaya Ntini. The ball pitched outside leg

stump but English umpire Peter Willey raised his finger to signal the end of the match. Sri Lanka, who had been

forced to follow on 259 runs behind on the first innings. were bowled out for 252, adding just 68 runs for the loss of seven wickets Monday.

The slide started with the 11th ball of the day when Aravinda de Silva was caught at third slip by South African captain Shaun Pollock when he edged an outswinger from Jacques Kallis.

Pollock flung himself forward and to his right to take the ball with both hands. De Silva walked as Pollock claimed the catch. Slow motion replays indicated the ball may have bounced as Pollock caught it but Pollock said: "There wasn't any doubt. I was there. It carried straight into the tips of my

The left-handed Sangakkara. 23, playing in his sixth Test. went past his previous highest score of 74, made in the first Test of the current series i Dur-

He batted for 348 minutes and faced 215 balls, hitting 14 fours before playing across the line against Ntini in an attempt to hurry to his century before running out of partners.



S POLLOCK ... m-o-m & m-o-s

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the third day of the third and final Test between South Africa and Sri Lanka at Centurion on Monday:

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 378 (Shaun Pollock 111. Neil McKenzie 103, Daryll Cullinan 48; Nuwan Zoysa 4/76. Wickramasinghe Pramodya 2/107)

SRI LANKA: First innings 119 (Romesh Kaluwitharana 32; Makhaya Ntini 4/39, Justin Kemp 2/19, Allan Donald 2/28) SRI LANKA: Second innings

(overnight 184/3) Atapattu c Cullinan b Pollock 0 Sangakkara Ibw b Ntini Jayawardene c Dippenaar b Kallis 23 Arnold c Pollock b Boje De Silva e Pollock b Kallis Jayasuriya b Donald Kaluwitharana c Boucher b Kemp 10 Zoysa c and b Kemp Wickramasinghe c Boucher b Niini 1 Fernando e Kallis b Kemp Perera not out Extras: (lb-2, w-2, nb-4) Total: (All out in 81.3 overs) 252

Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-43, 3-156, 4-187, 5-212, 6-234, 7-242, 8-243, 9-248 Bowler

Donald 39 19.3 51 2 45 by an innings and 7 runs and | the area.

clinch the series 2-0. Man-of-the-match: Shaun Pollock.

Pollock.

Imran's money on Australia BCCI issues Aussies dates

chiefs on Monday in their ranks to 20. finally announce details of the Australian tour, barely three weeks before the

Waugh's allconquering team will play three Tests, five one-day internationals and three warm-up games during the seven-week tour starting on February 17, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced.

Media reports said the BCCI had to placate a few regional associations who were not allotted a match during the keenly-awaited tour before finalising the schedule.

Also the BCCI's own bungling at double-booking their participation in a one-day tournament in Sharjah before the Australian tour ended had led to the delay.

Sharjah organisers agreed to postpone the triseries by four days, paving the way for the Australians to com-

NEW DELHI. Jan plete the Indian tour by the team at New Delhi from March 22: India's cricket originally agreed date of April 6. 6-8 will be followed by back-to-The Sharjah tri-series will back Tests at Madras (March

> The Australian tour starts warm-up match against Sachin on April 7. Tendulkar's Mumbai team at Bombay from February 22.

starts at the Wankhede stadium on February 27.

overcame dissent now be played from April 8 to 11-15) and Calcutta (March 18-

This will be followed by five with a three-day game against one-dayers at Bangalore, Pune, India A at Baroda from Febru- Indore, Visakhapatnam and tourists arrive here, reports ary 17, followed by another Goa before the tourists fly home

Australian captain Steve the Cricket Club of India in Waugh considers the Indian tour the last unconquered The tourists will stay on in frontier for his world-beating Bombay for the first Test which team.

Australia, who recently secured a record 15-match win-Another three-day match ning streak, have not won a against the Board president's Test series in India in 31 years.

TOUR ITINERARY

Feb 17-19: 3-dayer vs India A at Baroda Feb 22-24: 3-dayer vs Ranji Trophy champions Bombay at CCI

Feb 27-Mar 3: First Test at Wankhede stadium. Bombay

Mar 6-8: 3-dayer vs Board President's team at Delhi Mar 11-15: Second Test at Madras Mar 18-22: Third Test at Calcutta

Mar 25: First one-dayer at Bangalore Mar 28: Second one-dayer at Pune Mar 31: Third one-dayer at Indore

Apr 3: Fourth one-dayer at Visakhapatnam

TIEST OFFICE OF OFFICE

Apr 6: Fifth one-dayer at Goa

McDonalds will add spice to the hyped coaching stint of former England player Geoff Boycott in Pakistan, officials said Monday, reports AFP. We are in the final stages of

fast food chain

signing the deal and Boycott is arriving in Pakistan on February 4." Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Lieutenant General Taugir Zia said. McDonalds in Pakistan will

dole out 30.000 pounds (around 2.7 million rupees) for Boycott's 15-day coaching stint The PCB has come under fire for what is seen by many here has an unnecessarily generous contract to the former England opener. "We had properly thought

out Boycott's coaching programme and don't bother about the negative thinking of the people -- it cannot change our stance," Zia said. "We know it can pay off and we will not crowd him with

players. We want to set Paki-

stan cricket on a strong footing

and decisions like this have to academy starting next month unconvinced. and will also pass on tips to the

日本衛子 年 一日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日

KARACHI, Jan 22: US team "I think this is an investment which will benefit Pakistan cricket a lot," chairman of the

board Tauqir Zia told reporters. "He is one of the finest technicians of the game who can help Pakistani youngsters with his experience."



GEOFF BOYCOTT

Former Pakistani coaches Boycott will train budding Mushtaq Mohammad and In-

New Zealand-bound Pakistan worth 2,000 pounds a day, to ner was in a slump in form.

me this is a waste of money, said Mohammad, Pakistan's coach in the 1999 World Cup. Alam asked: "Who will follow

up once Boycott leaves? If Boycott is that valuable why has England never appointed him their team's coach?' The media, who have been

extremely critical of the appointment. have questioned Boycott's coaching credentials but Zia was adamant that he does not need any coaching certificates. "We have appointed Javed

Miandad as team coach. He doesn't have any certificate. They are masters of the game and the world recognises them as maestros," Zia said. "Boycott may be a Yorkshireman and his accent may

be difficult for some but the language of cricket is the same everywhere," he said. Besides Boycott, the PCB have also contracted former test opener Mudassar Nazar, who lives in England, for coaching.

Pat Synicox however has decided he will not be available to fulfil such a role.

He has been contracted by the United Cricket Board of South Africa to develop spin bowling in his own country. He players in Pakistan's national tikhab Alam said they were recently worked with Paul Adams, at a time when South Af-"No player in the world is rica's former number one spin-

Australia disturbed



MELBOURNE. Board (ACB) said "disturbed" by claims from a former Pakistan

player that an Australian help persuade foreign players to person exists," Speed said. under-perform in matches. reports AFP.

Britain's The weekend that Qasim Omar alleged that prominent players, in Sydney hotels as part of speak with investigators as part crooked deals.

ACB chief executive Malcolm into match-fixing. Speed said in a prepared tralian players or officials.

"The International Cricket bookmaker. Council (ICC) Anti-Corruption Unit has confirmed to the ACB that this investigation is focusing on foreign players and officials." Speed said. Two members of the Unit titutes to the ICC.

have confirmed that no current or former Australian players or official is under investigation."

Speed said the ICC Unit. led by former commissioner of London's metropolitan police Sir Paul Condon, will seek to interview the prostitutes next

Gough in charge

LONDON, Jan 22 (Internet report): Darren Gough will captain a side for the first time in his career when an international under lights provides the showpiece to his benefit year this summer.

The Yorkshire fast bowler will lead an England and Yorkshire side against a Rest-of-the-World XI in a 40-over day-night match at Sheffield's Don Valley Stadium on August 30.

Organisers hope some of the touring Australians, who are due to finish the last Test against England at the Oval three days earlier, will be available and are optimistic that West Indies pair Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh will appear.

"It could be the only chance I ever get to captain," said 2 Gough. "I'm really looking forward to it and hopefully the people of South Yorkshire will come along to watch because it's been a few years since Result: South Africa won | they've had first-class cricket in The match will be played on

an imported Astroturf pitch with legendary umpire Dickie Player-of-the-series: Shaun | Bird promising to come out of retirement to officiate.

month. The ICC will have its hotels and restaurants in Syd-Jan 22: The Aus- quarterly meeting in Melbourne nev and Melbourne. Cricket next month.

lian bookmaker was involved.

"If he does and he is still ration Radio. working as a bookmaker we

newspaper reported at the he no longer has anything to do with the game of cricket." In a separate inquiry, curincluding national team cap- rent Australian batsman Mark tains, had sex with prostitutes Waugh has been asked to

of a world-wide investigation played fully on their merits. The ACB said their own instatement that the allegations dependent investigator. Greg related to the period of 1984 to Melick, also wanted to question

1987 and did not involve Aus- Waugh on allegations he took money from an illegal Indian Waugh has denied the alle-

gations and agreed to cooperate with the inquiry.

Speed said Omar had given a list of the names of 23 pros- our captain."

The deals were struck in past 15 Tests, a world record.

"No I have no idea who it is.

Speed said the most dis- The former player claims to on Monday it was turbing aspect of the claims have the name of 23 prostitutes was the suggestion an Austra- and the bookmaker and he claims to have given them to "Clearly the ACB would be the ICC so it really falls to them bookmaker used prostitutes to very interested to know if this to investigate that," Speed told Australian Broadcasting Corpo-

"I don't think that the Aus-Observer want to be able to ensure that tralian public should in any way feel that cricket's reputation is damaged by this.

"What is disturbing is the suggestion that matches in which Australia have played in that period may have not been

"That's disturbing for cricket administrators and it will be disturbing for cricket fans. Our focus is on Australia, on our team at present. "(Captain) Steve Waugh has

said a number of times that whenever the Australian team plays they are going flat out and I don't think we can get a better assurance than that from

Australia have won their



Amanda Coetzer of South Africa makes a backhand return against Argentinian Paola Suarez at the Australian Open - AFP photo yesterday.

Anand, Shirov share points

WIJE AAN ZEE, Jan 22: champion world Viswanathan Anand of India drew against Alexander Morozevich of Russia in round seven of the Corus Chess tournament on Sunday, reports AP.

With the black pieces, Morozevich chose the relatively rare Tchigorin Defense to the Queens Gambit Declined. Morozevich is the only top player to include this line in his repertoire.

Anand emerged from the opening with a passed pawn on d5 and a knight on c7.

Dutch grandmaster Hans Ree commented on move 19, "I like Anand's position but I don't see how he can make progress. but he'll probably find a way. It is often this way with Morozevich's games. His positions look terrible on first sight, but on closer examination, they're sound.

In other games, Alexei Shirov of Spain drew with Michael Adams of England to maintain his lead in the tournament, while former world champion Garry Kasparov crushed Veselin Topalov of Bulgaria.

Khagrachhari football

From Our Correspondent KHAGRACHHARI, Jan 22: Matiranga upazila outplayed Chandabi Club 2-0 in the Khagrachhari Senior football league at the local stadium today. Manik and Nasir netted one goal each for the winners.

In the day's other match. Kongchari Marma Jubo Sangsad defeated Young Star Club 3-1 at the same venue.

Basu Barua scored two and Monglow Marma one for the

Shaun told to bat like Botham

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 22: Shaun Pollock's amazing century off just 95 balls against Sri Lanka on Saturday can be ascribed to the advice he received from his father, Peter, and his uncle, Graeme, both famous Test cricketers.

After the South African captain took his two hundredth Test wicket in Durban, the most talented trio of namesakes in Test history sat down to a family supper.

Speaking to an Internet news host, Peter Pollock said: The consensus on the part of Graeme and myself was that Shaun needed to belt the ball around a bit more, like lan Botham. As you could se on Saturday, he took the advice to

The result was a turnaround in batting fortunes for the South African captain, whose form with the bat has dipped

The new approach brought him the equal fastest hundred in the history of South African Test cricket. He was playing in his 51st Test -- the longest wait ever for a maiden Test century

Peter Pollock, who used to be convenor of the South African selectors, says that following his son's cricket career has become more of a strain of late. since he views the game much more from his son's point of view, while, when he was a selector, all players were given a more equal share of his attention. Now his primary role is that of proud father -- and batting coach.

Kournikova, Hewitt fined

MELBOURNE, Jan 22: Ten nis pin-up girl Anna Kournikova has been fined 2,000 US dollars for being coached from the sidelines during her fourth round win against doubles partner Barbara Schett, reports

The Russian teenager was given a code violation during Sunday's match, which she won 2-6 6-6 6-3, before the fine was imposed, a spokesman for tournament referee Peter Bellenger said. The spokesman said

Kournikova's mother Alla had

been calling out advice to her

when she trailed 3-4 in the

second set. Lleyton Hewitt has also been slapped with a 2,000 dollar fine for abusing the chair umpire during his titanic third-round loss to Spaniard Carlos Moya. Australian Hewitt, seeded

minute thriller, which finished early Sunday. The feisty Hewitt fired an audible obscenity at umpire Rudi Berger after the official over-ruled a line-call in the ninth game of the tense fifth

seven, lost 4-6, 6-1, 5-7, 6-2, 7-

5 to Moya in a three hour 48-

At least 21 players have been hit with fines for code violations so far. France's Fabrice Santoro

set.

leads the pack after being ordered to pay 5,000 dollars for unsportsmanlike behaviour towards an official following his second round loss to Canadian Daniel Nestor. Several players have been fined for racquet abuse includ-

reduced to 1.000 dollars on appeal. Switzerland's Marc Rosset 26Lustrous and American Jan-Michael Gambill were fined 500 dollars for the same offence.

ing Germany's David Prinosil

whose 2,000 dollar fine was

Ukraine's Andrei Medvedev was hit with a 1,000 dollar bill for verbal obscenities during his loss to Sweden's Andreas Vinciguerra.



SCARY! An official removes a flare thrown by a spectator during Australian Open doubles match involving Russia's Anna Kournikova and Babara Schett against Japan's Shinobu Asagoe and Yuka Yoshida yesterday. -- AFP photo

Flare scare down under

Sisters in last eight meet in an intriging quarter-"I really excel when I play in



MELBOURNE.

Jan 22: Venus Williams showed a killer instinct Monday to dump Amelie Mauresmo and book an Australian Open quarterfinal place, reports AFP.

last eight by sister Serena, Martina Hingis and Amanda Coetzer who all clincally disposed of their fourth round opponents. But their performances were overshadowed by a security

The US Open and Wimble-

don champion was joined in the

A lighted orange flare was lobbed onto court one, holding up play for 12 minutes, as the Russian starlet played a doubles match with partner Bar- for an ace. I hit so many out, it bara Schett. "I was hitting the ball. Sud-

scare involving Anna Kournik-

in front of me," said Kournikova, who said she wasn't frightexpect something or see up this month. front if something is going to happen. If you knew, you If I haven't prepared for it then

never predict anything." The pair went on to win in three sets against Japan's Shinobu Asagoe and Yuka Yoshida. Police said a 15-year-old boy had been apprehended over the incident but let off with a

Little held up the progress of to the heat, which has hit 50 Serena and Hingis who now degrees C on court at times.

final showdown. Venus, who will take on South African Coetzer, had

who produced some incredible backhand winners. Williams had to step up a is a little easier for me." gear after the Frenchwoman took the second set and after a blistering backhand down the line earned Mauresmo a break point in the final game. Venus

more trouble against Mauresmo

clearly decided it was time to bring proceedings to an imme- throws at her. diate end. She fired two aces to win the have the chance to beat anytussle 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

"I was really having a tough time champion after sweeping time with my serve," she said. "At the end I just really went for 6-3. the gold and just got lucky. I really thought it was time appeared in 13 singles finals

was bound to go in.' Serena swatted Czech girl cerned about the extra height denly something just dropped Daja Bedanova 6-2, 6-2,

She said she was suitably prepared for the Swiss miss who beat her in a Sydney "You know, you can never warm-up tournament earlier "I've prepared for it already.

wouldn't go there. You can there's nothing I can do," she "My preparation has been done before I got off the airplane into Australia."

US Open champion has been

beyond the fourth round here

a set, a performance she puts down to keeping things simple on court "I was very happy with the way I played except for a little patch in the second set when I

simple."

and weight of Serena.

It is the first time the former was trying to do a little too much," she said. "In general though I think I and she put her progress down am playing very well within myself. I'm trying to keep it

the heat because I used to live

in California and now I live in

really brutal. They're actually

worse than they are here. This

Hingis was also in sparkling

She has yet to drop a set

"I think if I'm playing well I

The petite 20-year-old, who

"If you play a good game of

Like Hingis, 10th seed Coet-

form, wrapping up another

and is certain she can whip

anyone the Australian Open

body out there," said the three-

aside Rita Grande of Italy 6-0.

last year and won nine of them.

added that she wasn't con-

tennis, you have a chance out

zer, who beat Argentina's Paula

Suarez 6-1, 6-4, has yet to drop

there, but it is getting tougher."

match in less than an hour.

"Summers in Florida are

Florida," she said.

MELBOURNE. Jan 22 for everything in tennis. The who's been No.1," he said. "I'm website, www.damirdokic.net. The Melbourne Herald Sun said the site, which features shots of his daughter Jelena playing strokes and a huge centre headshot of Damir, is titled 'The Truth and Nothing but the Truth'. The paper spoke to the site's designer, a family friend called Goz. "It's going to tell the truth basically, tell his side of the story, what the media said versus what he said." He's hoping it will be up and run-

ning in a fortnight. BACK TO SCHOOL FOR

France's Arnaud Clement obviously spent more of his schooldays polishing his forehand than learning English. Struggling through a press conference after reaching the quarter-finals, he tried to explain that he had to change his shirts regularly during matches because he sweats easily -unfortunately it came out as "too sweet."

ARNAUD

SPEED NOT **EVERYTHING** Power still does not count

13 Home of

8- and

14"The Art

us to "Us"

31 Mid-June

honoreo

21 Baseballer 52 Raced

14-Across

(AFP): Damir Dokic just doesn't five players who have produced the only one with (Sergi) Brugive up. His colourful ravings the fastest serves on Melbourne guera who has won a Grand are well documented and now Park's Rebound Ace courts are Slam. When I had that injury I he's reportedly launching a all out of the tournament. The was No.1." fastest of them, Greg Rusedski, was the last to leave, beaten by Clement on Monday. His best effort was clocked at a phenomenal 217 kmh (134.9 mph).

SERENA PATS HER-SELF ON THE BACK

Serena Williams is not shy about blowing her own trumpet. Since her arrival in Australia the 19-year-old has referred to herself as "obviously" a great player and compared her and sister Venus's exploits to tennis legend Martina Navratilova. She gave herself another pat on the back Monday: "A lot of people would pretty much kill to do what I've done," she said.

MOYA STICKS UP FOR

HIMSELF

rid time with injuries which saw

his year-end ranking plummet

to 41 last year. He also lost his

position as Spain's best player.

It was that more than anything

else than rankled the 24-year-

old. "Maybe they moved ahead

of me but I'm the only one

Carlos Moya has had a tor-

Proshery Sangha by three wickets in the Rajshahi Premier Division Cricket League at the local stadium today. Bright Star won the toss and

> decided to bat first. They collected 196 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs. In reply, Diganta Proshery Sangha were shot out for 193 in

Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent

Star Club defeated Diganta

RAJSHAHI, Jan 22: Bright

DIV I CRICKET

Bandhan Krira Chakra recorded a huge 135-run win over Avijatri Club in the Rajshahi First Division Cricket League at the Shaheed AHM Qamruzzaman Divisional Stadium tofrom a career high five in 1998 day.

Winning the toss, Bandhan Krira Chakra batted first and went all out collecting 213 in 40 In reply, Avijatri Club were

shot out for 79 in 25.2 overs.

42 43 44 38 | 39 | 40 CRYPTOQUIP

VCGIVSD WED XSDD WLVZX

FARMS, I SIMPLY WENT HOG-WILD. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals E

The Cryptoquip 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,

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN I WAS 8 INFORMED THAT I'D INHERITED FIFTY PIG 201

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 33 Infinitesi- 53 Pigs ACROSS 10 Proctor's 1 Trilling call amount 34 Church 11 Stench 4 Metric unit bench 19 Related DOWN 8 Statesman, 35 Brass 1 Cineplex 20"Stop a.k.a. "Tho instruolloring acting" Censor" 2 Conviction 23 Promise 12 Altar 36 Fast-24"Hail, 3 Vibrant affirmative forward Caesarl*

barely

hit

5 Chris

of Love" O'Donnell 26 Mandible 45 Bedouin pool 46 Vorifiable role 15 Writer 47 Pink-slip 6 Congrega- and Deighton 48 Duo tional 49 Snatch 16 Help a 50 Hall a criminal 17 Wheels of dozen mail fortune? 51 The "I" in 8 L's 18 It attracts "The King

37 Enthusiast 4 Just

38 Anticipate

every-

thing

Griffey 22 Hosiery Solution time: 23 mins. mishap 23 Authenticated black 27 Satchol 3011 takos the cake

and I"

WARP LAN FILAM HAITCHBACK 32Frat-party 44 Alluring

27 Go up down 28 Palindromic 7 Processed potentate 29 Petrol 31 Goes keyboard 32 Albacore neighbor 34 Standard 9 Tel — 35 Postponed 36 Zoo equine 37 Blizzard

25°To Kill a

bird

author

Mocking-

minutia HBACK 38- -pie (head-tofoot) 39 Algorian port 40 Conceiled 41 Jump 42 Lip 43 Egress