

# Botham's way of celebrating

LONDON, Aug 6: England all-rounder Ian Botham sent a stern warning to the West Indies with a championship-best seven for 54 as Worcestershire hammered leaders Warwickshire on Monday, reports AFP.

Botham, celebrating his recall to the England squad for Thursday's fifth Test at the Oval, sent Warwickshire to their third defeat of the season by an innings and 33 runs with his best bowling figures in an 18-year career.

Warwickshire, following on, were dismissed for 123. They are now 50 points clear of Essex, who have two games in hand.

Fallen idol David Gower recorded his highest score this year, 80 not out, to give Hampshire a narrow victory over struggling Middlesex.

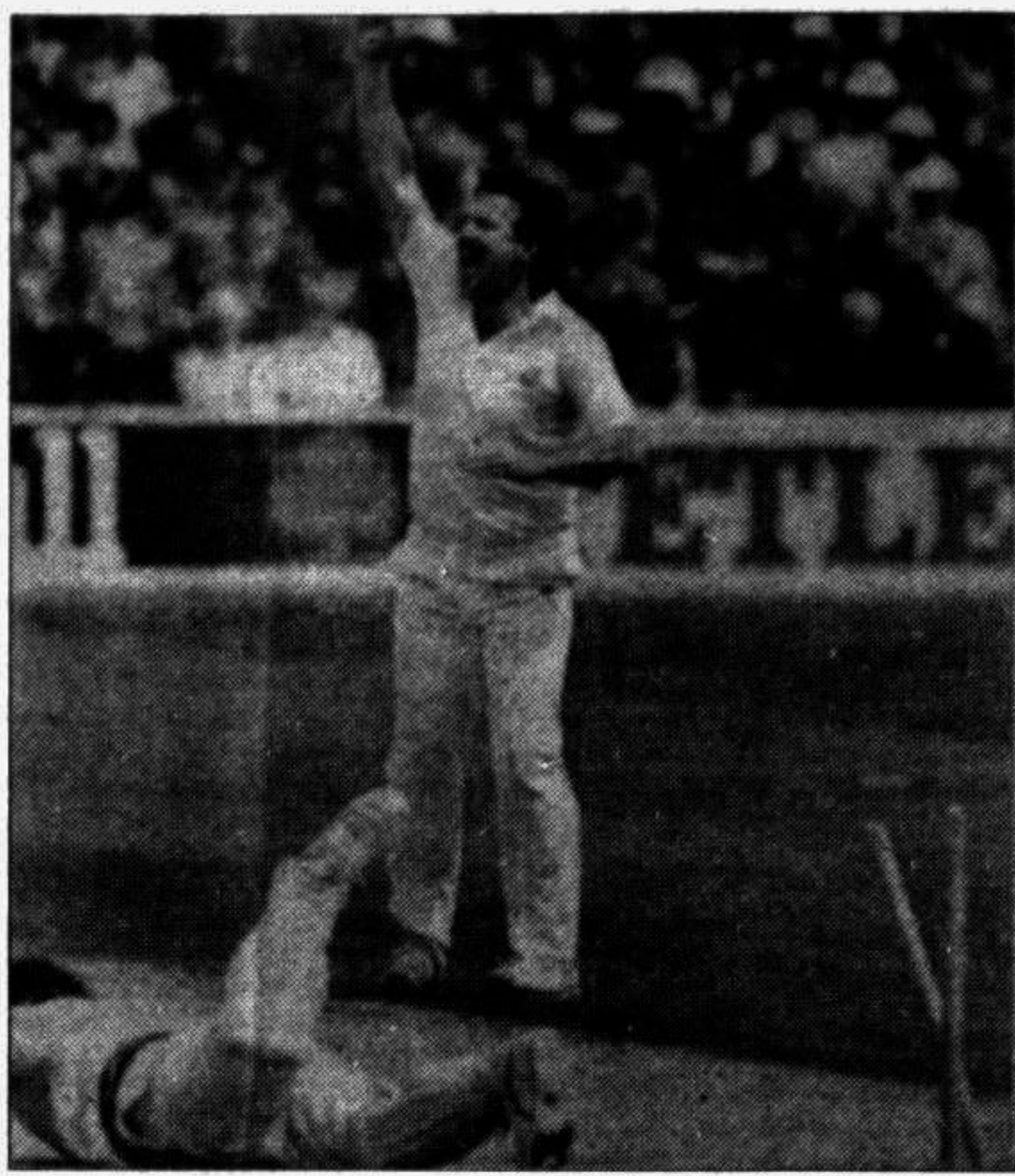
Sunbbed by England this summer, Gower found his form hitting a six and nine fours from 104 balls to give Hampshire victory with two balls and five wickets to spare after Middlesex had set them 243 in 50 overs.

England spinner Phil Tufnell took four for 112 for career-best match figures of 11 for 228, but Hampshire triumphed when Jonathan Ayling hit his for a six.

Lancashire missed a chance to gain ground on the leaders when their match against Yorkshire at Old Trafford was rained off.

Set 280 to win from 65 overs, Lancashire were 105 for one from 44, with Gehan Mendis 59 not out, when the heavens opened.

Earlier, Yorkshire's Ashley Metcalfe hit 113 not out, his first ton of the season, as



IAN BOTHAM — justifies his Test recall

Lancashire used joke bowling to get a declaration.

Surrey, also hoping to push for the title, drew with Kent after making a late surge at Canterbury.

A season's best 151 from Darren Bicknell, with 18 fours from 297 balls, took Surrey to 385 and left Kent to score 206 in 32. They finished at 103 for seven.

Bottom club Leicestershire are still chasing their first win after rain hit their match against Somerset at Taunton.

The home side, chasing

270 to win in 53, lost prolific opener Jimmy Cook to England all-rounder Chris Lewis first ball.

Rain wiped out 22 overs, and Somerset reached 61 for two at the close.

Lewis starred with 43 from 41 balls as Leicestershire hurried for runs.

Northamptonshire, chasing 262 to win in 72 against Sussex, finished on 243 for eight. Sussex had lost their last eight wickets for 107 runs, with Eldine Baptiste taking four for 64.

## SA welcome to W Cup

MELBOURNE, Aug 6: South Africa would be welcome to end its 21-year isolation from international cricket by playing in next year's World Cup tournament, organizers said Tuesday, reports AP.

World Cup committee chairman Malcolm Gray said South Africa would be welcomed into the limited-overs tournament if a submission for the republic to play was approved by the International Cricket Conference.

Gray said it was up to South African officials to apply to the ICC before the end of the month to play in the World Cup, to be staged in Australia and New Zealand in February and March.

He said a feasibility study on rearranging fixtures and finances to add South Africa to the round-robin series

showed it was possible to accommodate a ninth side.

Australia, New Zealand, the West Indies, India, Pakistan, England, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe are the nations currently slated to compete.

The World Cup committee, for some time, has been carrying out a study on the possibility of South competing in the World Cup, Gray said.

"That study has shown administrative, logistical and financial, it is possible for it to be part of the World Cup as a ninth team."

"The Australian Cricket Board thinks the World Cup would be the appropriate stage for South Africa to come back to international cricket."

South Africa was re-admitted into international cricket last month by the ICC after being ostracized in 1970 because of its apartheid laws.

## Ban on Aussie 'rebels' lifted

MELBOURNE, Australia, Aug 6: The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) on Tuesday lifted a 10-year ban on six players who defied a warning not to return to South Africa after taking part in rebel tours in the mid-1980's, reports AFP.

The ACB's chief executive David Richards said the six formerly banned players would be allowed to play at state level in Australia this year.

A ban on their playing Test matches would have to be reviewed by the ICC, he said.

South Africa was readmitted to the ICC last month after ending racial discrimination in cricket.

Therefore, Richards said, the ACB had decided to lift its ban on Michael Haysman of South Australia, Rod McCurdy (Victoria), Johan Maguire (Queensland), Kim Hughes and Glenn Hughes (both of western Australia), and Steve Smith (New South Wales).

They would be allowed to play in the Sheffield Shield competition between Australian state sides, Richards said.

The six were among Australian players including Test cricketers Terry Alderman and Carl Rackemann who took part in rebel tours of South Africa in 1985-86 and 1986-87.

Alderman and Rackemann were banned from Sheffield Shield cricket for two years and Test cricket for three years, and the ACB warned that any player who returned to South Africa would be banned for 10 years.

## Lambert presses Test claim

CHELMSFORD, England, Aug 6: Guyanese left-hander Clayton Lambert continued his push to make the West Indies team for the final Test against England this week as the three-day tour match with Essex ended in a draw on Monday, reports Reuter.

Lambert added an unbeaten 82 to his first innings 116 to step up the pressure on Phil Simmons for an opening berth at the Oval. His innings enabled West Indies to declare at 217 for five but Essex, chasing an unlikely 336 in a minimum of 56 overs, finished safely on 136 for four.

Scoring his runs from just 129 balls, Lambert is now averaging 112 in his last five innings after replacing the injured Gordon Greenidge in the tour party.

By comparison, Simmons has managed only 130 runs as Desmond Haynes's opening partner in the Test series. He scored 40, here, sharing a stand of 91 for the fifth wicket with Lambert.

# Hosts, Brazil humiliate US



HAVANA, Aug 6: The US "B" team took a beating on the worst track and field day for the United States in Pan American Games history, reports AP.

In contrast, in front of President Fidel Castro, Cuba's track and field team experienced one of its greatest days ever.

While the best US sprinters were cavorting in Europe, Cubans and Brazilians danced gleefully to the victory stand in Havana.

The United States won 26 Pan-Am golds in track and field in 1987, but after 14 events so far this year it has only one — a 3,000-metre victory by Sabrina Dornhofer.

The host Cubans won six gold medals Monday, matching their entire total in 43 events at the 1987 Games at Indianapolis.

After three days and 14 events of track and field, the Cubans have eight golds and the US team one gold, five silvers and four bronzes.

Hardly ever have the Cubans had such a chance to celebrate in a meet of such magnitude — and the Americans had so much despair.

"The Cubans have got themselves ready for the competition," said Mel Rosen, the US men's track for the 1992 Olympics.

"Whether it's because the meet is at their place or they are making steady improvement over the last four years, the combination of both has made them very strong."

While most of the Cuban victories were well-deserved and some Americans failed to perform up to their standards, one US athlete, long jumper Llewellyn Starks, felt he was robbed of a gold medal.

Starks, the favourite, finished second to Cuba's Jaime Jefferson. But Starks was incensed about the officiating.

On his second attempt, he



Cuban Ana Quirot raises her arms as she crosses the finish line to win the women's 400 metres race at the on-going Pan-American Games on August 5. Quirot finished in 49.61. — AFP photo

sailed nearly 27 feet, 7 inches (8.41 metres), a jump that would have exceeded Jefferson's winning effort of 27-1 3/4 (8.27 metres). But it was ruled a foul. Starks protested vehemently, and while he was arguing, he said an official covered over the mark.

"Then he goes, 'OK, it's no foul,'" Starks said. "Then there's no mark to be measured," and the official told Starks he could have the jump

over, "which I think is not justice," Starks said.

Upsets were the order of the day.

Perhaps the biggest was the victory by Brazil's Robson da Silva over American Andre Cason in the men's 100-metre dash. Da Silva, one of the world's top 200-metre runners but not outstanding in the 100, won in 10.32 seconds, with Cason, of Virginia Beach, Va., second in 10.35.

Cason, who has run 10.05

# Burrell stays the 'King of Sprint'



MALMO, Sweden, Aug 6: Leroy Burrell retained his edge over Carl Lewis in the 100 meters, beating

his Santa Monica teammate by .7 of a second to win the "Kings of Sprint" Tuesday at the I'Dag Galan track meet, reports Reuters.

Burrell, facing Lewis for the second time in the 100 this season, took the lead early and won in 10.06 seconds. Lewis

finished in 10.13.

The last time they met, Burrell set the world record 9.90 at the US championships in mid-June with Lewis only .2 of second behind.

Dennis Mitchell made it a US 1-2-3 finish in 10.14 seconds. Linford Christie of Britain, a silver medalist behind Lewis in the 1988 Olympics and the European champion and record holder, was fourth in 10.18.

It was one of the strongest 100-meter fields since the Seoul Games, but the race was

"I didn't have the zip. I guess I'll save that for the World Championships."

The World Championships start in Tokyo late this month. Before then, Burrell and Lewis are scheduled to meet only once in the 100 — when they race in Zurich, Switzerland, on Wednesday.

Burrell, who failed to improve Ben Johnson's meet record of 10.05 set in 1987, said he was very tense at the starting line.

"But it should be in a big race like this," he said. "Carl doesn't add the tension. But

this year, had several reasons for his stunning loss: two false starts by others; his inability to adjust to the Cuban food and climate; and the fact that his coach, John Smith, was not allowed to come to Cuba because of State Department regulations.

Twice called back to the starting blocks after false starts by other runners, Cason simply couldn't keep up his strength the third time.

"My explosiveness wasn't there," said Cason, who complained that he had lost six pounds in the two days since he arrived because he couldn't adjust to the food. "It was just a bad day at the office."

He and Cuba's Joel Isasi were ahead at 20 metres on the second false start, which was charged to John Mair of Jamaica.

Another surprise came in the men's 1,500 metres, with Jose Valente of Brazil overtaking Bill Burke of Burke, Va., in the final 50 metres and winning in 3:42.90. Burke wound up second in 3:43.04.

The men's and women's 400s went as expected, with Cuba's Roberto Hernandez and Ana Quirot winning the golds.

Quirot, top-ranked in the world last year, won her second straight Pan Am 400 in 49.20, smashing her Games record of 50.27 set at Indianapolis.

Hernandez, the favourite in the men's 400, won handily in 44.62.

Probably the happiest winner was Cuba's Liliana Allen. After taking the women's 100 in 11.39, she was presented the gold medal by Castro and given a kiss on the right cheek by the Cuban President.

The other winners were Cuba's Ramon Gonzalez in the men's javelin at 259-7 (79.12), Cuba's Isomnet Quintero in the women's high jump at 6-2 (1.58), and Brazil's Adauto Domingues in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase in 8:36.01.



LEROY BURRELL — 'sprint king'

maired by two false starts. The first one was called on Burrell. Burrell, who was upset by Nigeria's Olapade Adeniken here last year, said he ran a good race "but I didn't react to the gun as well as I would have liked to."

having the eight best sprinters in the world makes it tense. At least for me."

Johnson, who is struggling to make a comeback after a two-year ban, was demoted to a "B" heat and finished third in 10.42, behind fellow Canadian

# Sun over Richards to set at the Oval

LONDON, Aug 6: In his pomp they called him the "Master Blaster", a devastating batsman whose arrival at the crease could be guaranteed to empty the bars at any cricket ground, writes Reuter.

Viv Richards is among the few players in modern times to generate such pulling power, sharing with Gary Sobers and Ian Botham the presence that fills a crowd with eager anticipation and captivates it with sublime batsmanship.

Richards has been enthralling spectators with his imperious performances for 17 years and 120 Tests — an outstanding reign that seems set to end at the Oval this week.

West Indies captain Richards, 39, says the fifth and final match against England is to be his last Test, giving an added emotional dimension to a game that will settle the series.

With West Indies leading 2-1, Richards is certain of never losing any of the 11 Test series in which he has been captain, a proud record for the Antiguan who has carried on where his predecessor Clive Lloyd left off in 1985.

Such is Richards' pride in West Indian cricket achievement that their victory in the fourth Test at Edgbaston, ensuring a share of the rubber after being 1-0 down, provided him with a moment he may savour above even some of his most breathtaking innings.

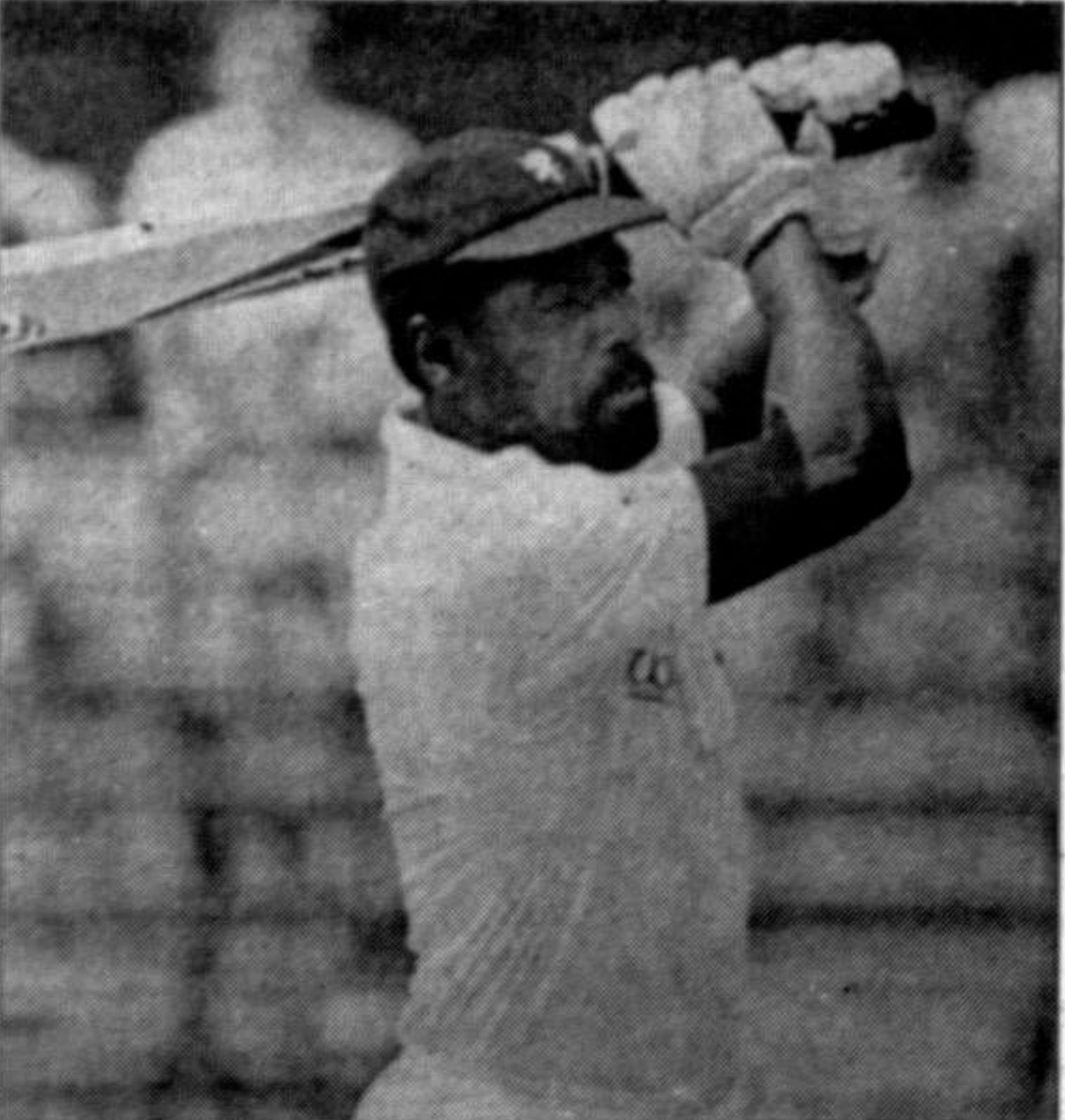
Richards played a key role with an unbeaten 73 that

guided his team from the plight of 24 for three on an untrustworthy pitch to a seven-wicket win, answering doubts about his capacity to bat responsibly in a crisis.

Having scored the winning runs with a straight six, Richards was engulfed by sup-

porters and teammates who ran on to the field and carried him shoulder high to the pavilion.

"It was very, very emotional for me," said the West Indies captain. "I don't mind saying the odd tear did drop. I am proud of my team. When you



VIVIAN RICHARDS — swan song at the Oval

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"It was very, very emotional for me," said the West Indies captain. "I don't mind saying the odd tear did drop. I am proud of my team. When you

have worked hard as we have done and you are rewarded, that is a good moment.

A successful farewell Test tour has been the icing on the cake for Richards, who made it clear when he arrived in England that his priority was a "nice, peaceful season."

Richards, a considerable physical presence at the crease, likes to dominate bowlers mentally as well as with his bat while a marvellous eye has been as important as sheer power of stroke when reducing the best attacks to tatters. Unlike most of the world's top batsmen, he has never bothered with a protective helmet.

In the twilight of his Test career, Richards has found the big scores elusive — he has made only two centuries in his last 39 Test innings, but he would dearly love to mark his farewell series by adding to his tally of 24 hundreds.

Lord's where he has hit centuries in a Test match, a World Cup final and twice in one-day county finals, is a ground that "Always gives me a special buzz" and would have been his ideal venue for another three-figure masterpiece.

But he had to settle for 60 this time, leaving next Thursday's match at the Oval — scene of his highest Test score of 291 in 1976 — as the stage for his attempt to sign off in story-book style.

ing when West Indies played Australia in the Caribbean earlier this year, with Richards making outspoken comments about Bobby Simpson, the touring team's coach.

It was one of the stormy phases that have punctuated the career of a man who will, nevertheless, be best remembered for the quality of his runs — his current Test aggregate of 8,478 is the highest by a West Indian.

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# S Africans may miss Barcelona Olympics for skipping World Championships

JOHANNESBURG — Aug 6: South African athletes could miss next year's Olympic Games in Barcelona as a result of not attending this month's World Athletics Championships, reports AFP.

Despite pressure from many home athletes and the world governing body, one of the main South African Amateur Athletics Association groups voted at the weekend

in Port Elizabeth to reaffirm its objection to competing in Tokyo.

An International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) spokesman in Rome said in reaction to the vote that South Africa would have to "show good reasons why they cannot go to the world championships in they want full membership of the IAAF."

"They may have reasons. But at the moment we cannot see any good reason why they

should not come," said the spokesman Franco Fava.

The IAAF congress is to vote just before the Championships start on August 24 on whether to give the SAAA full membership. That will be the key to whether South African athletes go to the Olympic Games.

IAAF sources say the world body's president Primo Nebiolo wants to see South Africa return to the world stage at the Tokyo

Championships which is why he is taking a tough stance.

The spokesman denied that Nebiolo had linked attendance at the World Championships to full membership of the IAAF. But the prospect of such a sanction is the fear of South African sports leaders.

Any invitation to take part in track and field events in Barcelona depends on full membership of the organisation led by Nebiolo. The African National

Congress (ANC) sports spokesman Steve Tshwete accused Nebiolo of "manipulation and blackmail" in an interview with the Johannesburg Sunday Times.

The ANC is close to the South African Amateur Athletics Congress (SAAAC) which reaffirmed its opposition to going to Tokyo at the weekend. The SAAAC and the radical black dominated South African Amateur Athletics Board were responsible for

the no to Tokyo vote on the new national athletics governing body.

They feel it is too soon for South African athletes to be participating at such an event.

Muleki George, a senior member of the National Olympic Committee of South African (NOCSA), described the IAAF invitation as irresponsible.

"They knew we had not fulfilled one of the conditions required of us — unity, yet they

invited us, causing nothing but confusion and frustration for the athletes," George said.

The predominantly white South African Amateur Athletics Union, led by Joe Stutzen, is the only one to back the demands by a lot of athletes that South Africa should be represented at the World Championships.

Stutzen told AFP he did not hold out much hope of the South African ruling body meeting the August 14 dead-

line laid down by the IAAF for accepting an invitation to the World Championships.

South African sports leaders including Tshwete and Stutzen appear to hope that last minute negotiations with Nebiolo will still get them a ticket to Barcelona.

The ANC official told the Sunday Times in the same interview that he criticised the attitude of the IAAF president. "We are going to talk to Nebiolo."