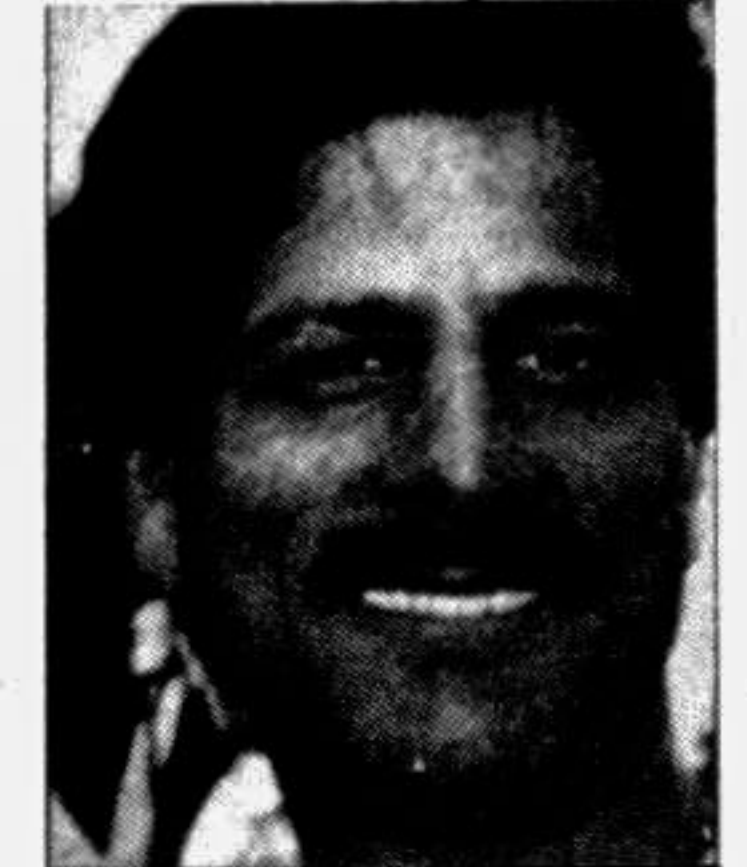


Srikanth shapes Indian win

ADELAIDE, Dec 14: An imperious Krishnamachari Srikanth led India to victory by 10 runs after putting them on course for an excellent total of 262 for four against West Indies in the World Series Cup cricket competition here Saturday, reports AFP.

The win — their second in four matches — put the Indians at the head of the three-nation table with 5 points to



SRIKANTH... India's man Australia's 4 and one for the West Indies.

Brought back into the international side for this tour, Srikanth's prodigious appetite for run-getting seemed to return at a time when the Indian team most needed to establish itself.

Having won the toss and elected to bat on a good batting strip, India got off to a fine start with Srikanth taking the score to 123 for one before he was tor for 82, made from 88 balls.

He had put on 96 with Sanjay Manjrekar, who then hit a more sedate half-century before India lost his wicket on 198.

Tendulkar, 48, and then captain Mohammad Azharuddin and Kapil Dev took India to a what became a match-winning total.

Desmond Haynes and Philo Wallace responded most positively for West Indies and laid the foundations of a big enough total largely matching the pat-

tern on India's innings to beging with.

The difference was in the individual scoring rates. While Haynes and Wallace kept up with each other's runs, the Indians mainly had Srikanth pile them on, with Shastri for a while and Manjrekar for the longer duration, playing a more supporting role.

Haynes, who has the highest aggregate for runs in one-day internationals, achieved a personal milestone, passing 7,000 when he reached 37.

He did so in spectacular style when he lifted leg-spinner Hirwani for six over mid-wicket immediately after the bowler had switched ends.

Wallace and Haynes reached their half-centuries within two minutes of each other.

Each and hit four fours and a six and taken the score to 124 when the first wicket fell.

Hirwani, after failing to accept a hard, knee-high return catch from Wallace, had him caught at long-off in the same 28th over.

With Haynes he had given his team just the right start to chase a difficult target.

Three runs later Richardson was run out when Haynes did not respond to his call but West Indies were still on course as Haynes and Lara added 57 for the third wicket.

With the score on 184, Lara, attempting to sweep Shastri, was trapped leg before for 29.

India's bowlers thereafter took control.

Hooper fell to a brilliant catch by Manjrekar in the deep mid-wicket area with the score on 205 and a run later West Indies lost the important wicket of Haynes for 89 off 117 balls.

Now they were deep in trouble.

Batting under pressure none of the batsmen could keep up the run rate required and the innings fell apart.

They lost the last seven wickets for 47 off 45 balls.

Kapil Dev had figures for 4 for 54.

West Indies skipper Richie Richardson was disappointed

and said: "we have just got to go on working at it."

Srikanth's superb innings earned him the man-of-the-match award.

Reuter from Adelaide adds: Srikanth's effort included 10 fours and a six before he was brilliantly stumped on the leg-side by David Williams off Carl Hooper's bowling.

Opening partner Ravi Shastri was the only Indian batsman to miss out when he was caught off his inside edge in the seventh over for four by



HAYNES...first to 7,000

wicketkeeper Williams off a Curtly Ambrose off-cutter.

Sanjay Manjrekar continued his return to form with a stylish 54 off 100 balls, while teenager Sachin Tendulkar produced a classy 48 off 58 deliveries.

Srikanth was particularly severe on paceman Patrick Patterson, who was eventually dropped from the bowling attack after giving away 47 runs in six overs.

The 32-year-old whacked 12 runs off Patterson's second over, but it was the punishment in Patterson's sixth over that prompted a change of tactics from Windies captain Richie Richardson.

Srikanth hooked one delivery for four and smashed the next over mid-on for six in an over that cost Patterson 14.

In the overcast conditions, the Windies seemed to lack purpose in the field after Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin won the toss and

decided to bat.

The pacemen bowled eight wickets in the first 10 overs and the Windies fielding was not up to the usual standard.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard after Saturday's one-day Series match between India and the West Indies here today:

INDIA:		O	M	R	W
R. Shastri c Williams	b Ambrose	10	1	35	1
K. Srikanth st Williams	b Hooper	6	0	47	0
S. Manjrekar c Wallace	b Arthurton	10	0	59	0
b Arthurton		48			
S. Tendulkar c and	b Arthurton	48			
M. Azharuddin not out		31			
K. Dev not out		21			
Extras (5 lb, 11 w, 5 nb)		21			
Total (After 50 overs for four wickets)		262			

Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-123, 3-198, 4-220.

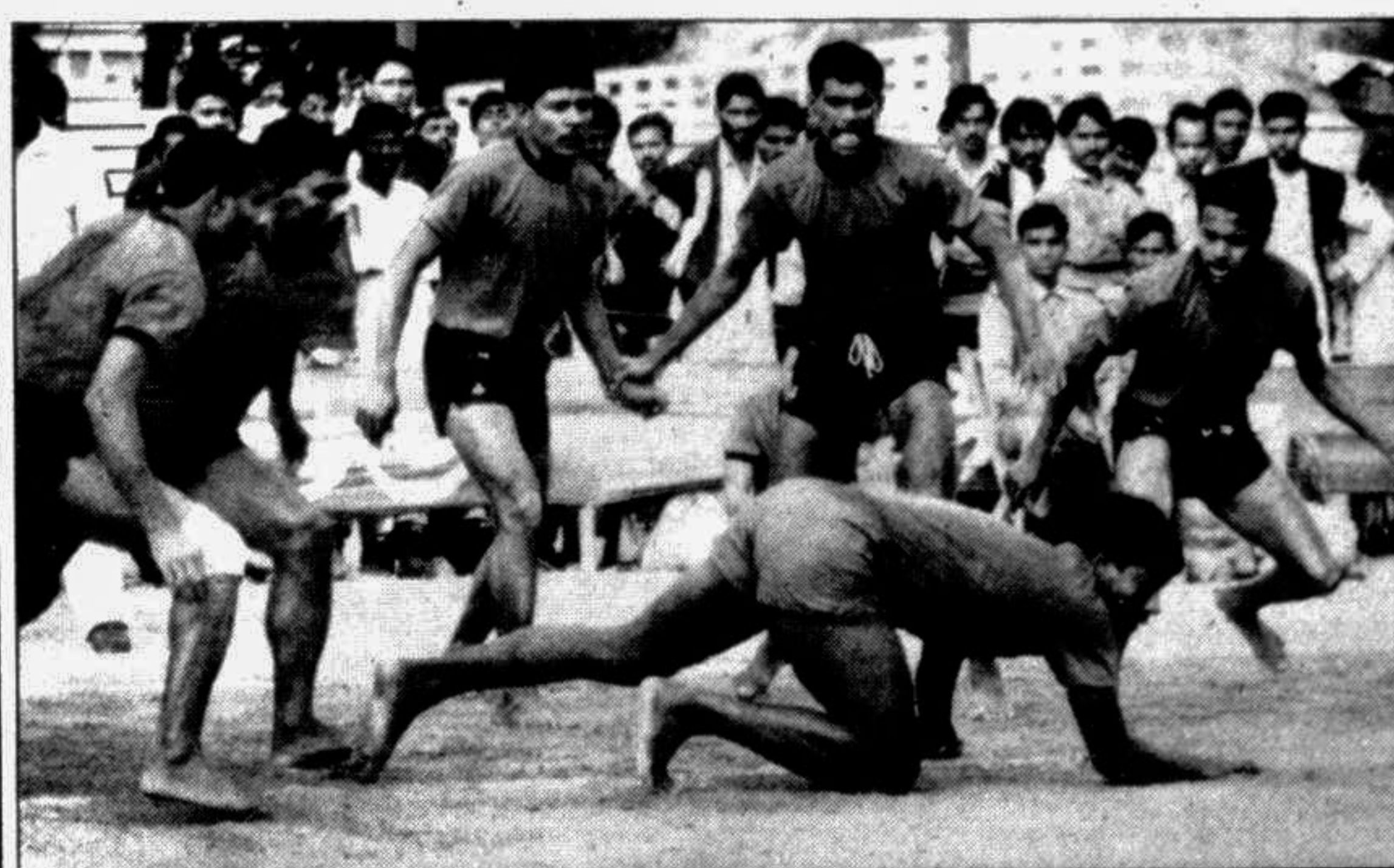
Bowling:		O	M	R	W
Ambrose		10	1	35	1
Patterson		6	0	47	0
Marshall		10	0	59	0
Cummins		10	0	41	0
Hooper		10	0	52	1
Arthurton		4	0	23	2

WEST INDIES

D. Haynes c Shastri b Srinath	89
P. Wallace c Srinath b Hirwani	52
R. Richardson run out	2
B. Lara lbw b Shastri	29
C. Hooper c Manjrekar b Dev	12
K. Arthurton c Amre b Dev	5
M. Marshall lbw b Srinath	17
D. Williams c and b Prabhakar	3
C. Ambrose b Dev	10
A. Cummins b Dev	7
B. P. Patterson not out	1
Extras (1b, 11lb, 9w, 4nb)	25
Total: (all out)	252

Fall of wickets: 1-124, 2-127, 3-184, 4-205, 5-206, 6-212, 7-220, 8-243, 9-251, 10-252.

Bowling:		O	M	R	W
Dev		10	1	54	4
Prabhakar		9	1	42	1
Srinath		10	0	35	2
Tendulkar		2	0	10	0
Hirwani		9	0	54	1
Shastri		10	0	45	1



Action on yesterday's Victory Day kabaddi tournament match between Bangladesh Police and Fire Service at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court. —Star photo

Stich in semis at Forget's cost

MUNICH, Dec 14: A superb backhand enabled Germany's big-serving Wimbledon champion Michael Stich to survive a set point and snatch a straight-sets win over France's Davis Cup hero Guy Forget and reach the semi-finals of the lucrative Grand Slam Cup here yesterday, reports AFP.

The third-seeded Stich eventually came through 7-6 (10/8), 6-4 and will now play American David Wheaton for a place in Sunday's final. Wheaton earlier defeated Australian Todd Woodbridge 6-4, 7-6 (8/6).

The other semi-final today will be between Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl and Michael Chang of the United States.

Forget matched Stich throughout an excellent 64 minute opening set of big serves and volleys, and at one stage led the tie-break 6-5. But the German, who hammered down 17 aces against 11 from the Frenchman, saved the situation with a spectacular backhand.

At the start of the second set Forget grazed his left knee in a fall chasing wide ball, and although he played on it was clearly upsetting his concentration.

Before the seventh game he received treatment for the injury and two games later he lost his serve.

After pocketing his pre-Christmas 300,000 dollar cheque, Forget joked: "I'll probably bank most of it for the days when I can't earn so much."

Australia's 20-year-old Todd Woodbridge a late replacement in the event after the withdrawal of Boris Becker, must have bitterly regretted a poor start and some abysmal finishing in the second-set tie break.

After trailing 1-4 in the first set and unable to get his serve working, Woodbridge fought back gamely. But just when he looked as though he would take the 6ft 5 in American into a third-set by leading the second set tie-break 6-3 he let the match slip — losing the next five points.

Sympathy for Gorbachev

VANCOUVER, Canada, Dec 14: If Mikhail Gorbachev's reign as leader of the Soviet Union does come to an end, at least one NHL player will be sorry to see him go, reports AP.

Vancouver's Igor Larionov has nothing but admiration for Gorbachev. It was Gorbachev who opened the window to the West and allowed the former Red Army star to pursue his dream, a career in the National Hockey League and a new life for his young family.

"Mikhail Gorbachev will always live in my heart," Larionov said Friday.

"In my opinion, the Russian people should appreciate him for what he's done in such a short time — just six years. I can't forget what he's done for myself. He opened the doors with glasnost. That's why I am here."

Larionov, 31, keenly follows the political scene and often seems more comfortable discussing Boris Yeltsin's latest power play rather than the Canucks. He maintains regular contact with his parents and devours Soviet journals and newspapers.

"I think Gorbachev will resign in the next few days," Larionov said. "He is now president of nothing."

"I think he deserves a rest. His place in history will be judged about five or 10 years down the road. He made some big steps, starting with taking the Soviet military out of Afghanistan and beginning a good relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States."

For all his bold moves, however, Gorbachev will leave behind an economy in shambles.

"I talked to my parents just a few days ago and they told me the situation is so bad," Larionov said. "They have money but they can't buy any-

thing because there is nothing in the stores."

"It is especially hard for old people and kids to not have proper food. What will happen? I think everyone is expecting aid from foreign countries. The general attitude is optimism, that things can only get better."

Larionov feels there is little he or fellow Russian teammate Pavel Bure can do from North America. When he first joined the Canucks in September 1989, Larionov purchased 10,000 syringes for a hospital in his hometown of Voskresensk. They never arrived.

"The syringes just disappeared, they never got through customs, I don't know what happened to them," Larionov shrugged unhappily. "There are no guarantees that if we send food or supplies they will ever get to the Soviet Union."

Ukraine quits Soviet league, but...

MOSCOW, Dec 14: The Ukrainian Soccer Federation said on Friday it was quitting the Soviet league, but confirmed its intention to play for the Soviet Union in the European Championship finals in Sweden next year, reports Reuter.

A plenum of the Ukrainian Federation at a meeting in the capital Kiev passed the decision unanimously, a move signalling the end of Soviet domestic football in its present form.

The Ukraine will be pulling six teams out of the 16-team Soviet First Division, which has traditionally run from March to November, including 1990 champions Dynamo Kiev, who have won the title five times in the last 12 years and are currently contesting the semifinals of the European Cup.

The other teams are Chernomorets Odessa, 1989 champions Dnipro Dnepropetrovsk, Shakhtyor Donetsk, Metallurg Zaporozhe and Metallist Kharkov.

The Ukrainian Federation plans to run a shortened league season next spring before changing to a normal Western European Autumn to spring season in 1992-93 with an 18-strong First Division and two other divisions.

Federation chairman Viktor Bannikov told the meeting he wanted to create a "financial defensive barrier" to discourage players from joining foreign clubs or those in other republics of the disintegrating Soviet Union.

Any foreign club wanting to sign a Ukrainian player would have to pay one million dollars for a First Division player, 750,000 for one from the second and 300,000 from the third.

A club from another republic wanting to sign a Ukrainian would have to pay identical sums, but in rubles.

Ukraine said on December 2 it had applied for membership of world football's governing body FIFA, a day after a referendum backed the republic's August independence declaration.

Bannikov, a former Dynamo Kiev goalkeeper, said full FIFA membership, which would give Ukraine the right to play in international competition, could be granted only by a full FIFA Congress. The next was scheduled for July 1992.

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Women's GS Cup from next year

MUNICH, Germany, Dec 14: Women could have their own tournament at next year's Grand Slam Cup, tennis chiefs said yesterday, reports Reuter. Axel Meyer-Woelden, tournament manager of the six million Dollar men's event taking place here this week, said discussions were under way on the possibility. International Tennis Federation (ITF) president Brain Tobin added the matter was on the agenda of a meeting with women's tennis chiefs in Melbourne in January.

Players qualify for the Munich event by their performance in the four Grand Slam Championships of the year — Wimbledon, and the US, Australian and French Opens.

Meyer-Woelden said he favoured an eight-strong women's tournament, organised together with the men's event, with prize money of 3.5 million dollars. The tournament could then be extended to nine days, he said.

Tobin said previous talks on the subject broke down because the women had demanded equal prize money.

Soviet soccer fed is alive & kicking, claims official

MOSCOW, Dec 14: The Soviet Football Federation is still alive and kicking, its president Viatcheslas Koloskov says, reports AFP.

He told a meeting of the Russian Football Federation on Friday: "The Soviet Federation still exists."

"All the national football committees, except Ukraine, have confirmed they are taking part in the next league championship."

And Koloskov has not given up hope of persuading the Ukrainians, who voted for independence two weeks ago, to return to the Soviet fold.

"If the Ukrainians decide to leave us that will rule them out of international competition, including European cups, for a certain time," he said.

The Ukrainians, who were turned down by FIFA last week for a place in the World Cup qualifying stages, had pledged to "put their internationals at the disposal of the Soviet team" for the European Championships in Sweden in June and the World Cup qualifiers. Koloskov added.

First Division fixture dates will be set on January 11 and Koloskov predicted that all the republics would be represented, even the Baltics.

"For Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia, this championship would be the best way to prepare for the World Cup," Koloskov declared.

Cricket's rhapsodiser Arlott is dead

LONDON, Dec 14: John Arlott, the world-renowned English broadcaster and writer who died on Saturday at the age of 77, was the voice of cricket to millions of people around the globe, reports Reuter.

From Lord's to Lahore, Arlott's rich rural accent and love of the game made him a uniquely popular figure for over 30 years until his retirement from the commentary box in 1980.

Arlott, a Hampshire man to the core, had the rare gift of describing cricket as if he were chatting to a close friend on the boundary edge.

He was also responsible for a series of dazzling verbal sketches which have entered cricket folklore, such as his description of the start of the youth Richard Hadlee's run-up.

"Like Groucho Marx stalking a waitress," Arlott told his audience.

Arlott joined the BBC in 1945 as a poetry producer, working closely at one stage with Dylan Thomas, but began reporting cricket the following year, prospering despite one BBC man's opinion that he had "an interesting mind but a vulgar voice".

From 1948, when Don Bradman's superb Australian team humbled England, his voice was synonymous with Test cricket and lazy, summer afternoons, despite several personal tragedies.

His second wife died young and his eldest son was killed in a road accident. He himself narrowly averted death in February 1958 when he was replaced by another guardian sports reporter on the fateful trip by Manchester United's soccer team to Belgrade.

The aircraft crashed at Munich, killing his colleague Dorey Davies.

Reflecting on his broadcasting career, which ended at the centenary Test between England and Australia at Lord's in 1980, Arlott said:

"If someone had told me as a child that one day I would earn my living talking about cricket, I would have thought this was impossible—the wildest of pipe dreams. But pipe dreams have come true."

Arlott began his working life as a clerk in a mental hospital before becoming a policeman. He became a noted wine lover, collected fine glass, furniture and first editions. He, also twice tried to

enter Parliament, contesting a seat unsuccessfully as a Liberal in 1955 and 1959.

After his retirement, he moved to Alderney in the Channel Islands, saying: "I'm going now when people are asking 'why?' rather than 'when'."

His long-time radio colleague Brian Johnston led a host of tributes to Saturday.

"John was a poet. He saw a game of cricket as something more than whether the ball was doing this or that," said

Johnston.

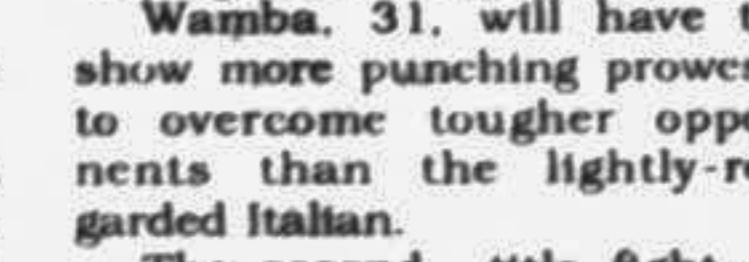
You could smell bat oil when he spoke and picture the village green with its thatched pub and all the players in flannels. He always tried to imagine he was talking to a blind person and coloured his commentary accordingly.

English chairman of selectors Ted Dexter added: "John was the man who could paint word pictures and make you feel you were sitting in the best seat in the ground."

Meanwhile, Tawfiq Aziz Khan, vice president of the Bangladesh Sportswriters' Association and himself a very well-known radio and TV sports commentator, has expressed his deep shock and regret at the death of John Arlott.

In a statement last night, Mr. Khan said cricket fans across the world will feel sad about the death of a man who had over long years established himself as the unrivalled doyen of cricket writers and commentators for his lucid and learned description of this wonderful game, both through the spoken and printed medium.

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JOHN ARLOTT

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