PORT ELIZABE-TH, South Africa, Dec 30: South African have dropped Clive Rice,

who led them on their return to international cricket, and prolific batsman Jimmy Cook from their squad for the World Cup starting in February, reports AFP.

Former Australian Test player Kepler Wessels will

#### Sohail stakes Test claim

LAHORE, Dec 30: Aamer Sohail boosted his chances of winning a place in the Pakistan side for the third and final Test against Sri Lanka with a 148-minute century on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Sohail, skipper of the Punjab Province Governor's XI, followed his first innings knock of 71 with an unbeaten 102 to enliven the third and final day of a drawn tour match against Sri Lanka.

He hammered 17 fours before flicking a catch to Roshan Mahanama at mid-wicket off Chandika Hathurusinghe.

The three-day match was called off at the tea break when both captains agreed that a draw was the only possible outcome.

The Governor's XI were 222 for two in their second innings — a lead of 254.

#### **Beleagured Indians** call up Sidhu

NEW DELIII, Dec 30 : Dashing opener Navjot Sidhu is leaving for Sydney to beef up the beleagured Indian cricket team not touring Australia, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Monday, reports AFP.

Sidhu will fly out of here early Tuesday following a decision by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to strengthen the Indian batting lineup, the news agency quoted BCCI sources as saying.

PTI did not say who Sidhu will replace, but a daily said the victim would be Krish Krikkanth.

Sidhu, who will play in the third Test starting Thursday, was originally picked for the Australian tour. But he was dropped after he suffered a fracture in the finger while playing South Africa in

India trail 02 in the Five-Test series against Australia.

### Leggie Warne

delighted MELBOURNE, Dec 30 : Leg spinner Shane Warne, who has played only seven first-class matches, has been included in the Australian 12 for the third Test against India beginning in Sydney on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Warne, 22, who made his

first-class debut for Victoria in February, has taken 14 wickets in four matches this season, including a haul of seven for 56 for an Australian XI against West Indies earlier this month. "It, is a great honour," said Warne on sunday.

"So fa . . season I have been wer, rd only about getting a .... ¿ for Victoria. It has in yet and I don't ill until I get to

replaces off-spinner

#### Gooch's men are 'hell-bent'

WELLINGTON, Dec 30: England's cricketers arrived in New Zealand on Sunday and captain Graham Gooch said they were "hell-bent on victory" against a team with an unbeaten home Tests series record stretching back 12 years, reports Reuter

"We are hell-bent on victory. I play my cricket to win so we will go out and try and win every game", Gooch told a news conference hours after stepping off a 27-hour flight from London.

England open their tour on Thursday with a one-day match against Auckland followed by a three-day game against New Zealand emerging players be-

ginning on Friday. They will be seeking to erase memories of 10 months ago when they lost a series of one-day internationals in New Zealand after a disappointing

tour of Australia. New Zealand captain Martin Crowe, out of action at present with an injured knee, said his young team would have to bat

tle to beat the tourists. New Zealand are still rebuilding following the retirement of Sir Richard Hadlee.

Gooch said Alec Stewart or Graeme Hick would most likely partner him in opening

for England. England play three one-day internationals and three Tests. The first one-day international is in Auckland on January 11

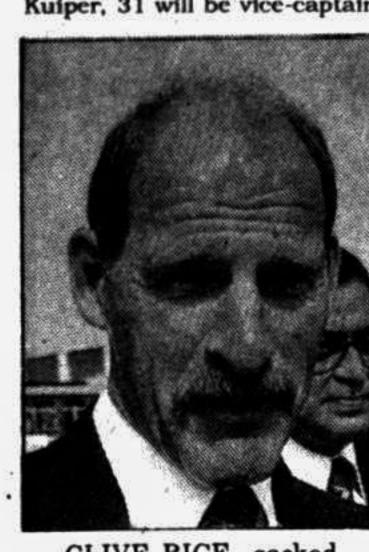
and the first Test begins in Christchurch on January 18. Both sides will use the tour

as a build-up to the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand in February and March.

### Wessels made captain for World Cup lead the 20-man squad named

Sunday. Wessels, the 34-year-old Eastern Province skipper, was star of the three match series against India in November which marks South Africa's return to the world stage after 21 years of isolation over

Western province and Derbyshire all-rounder Adrian Kuiper, 31 will be vice-captain.



No place was found for Rice, the 42-year-old Transvaal captain, who was about to make his Test debut for his country when the apartheid barrier came down.

doubtful about his ability to stand the pace down under, as he has not played much cricket so far this scason. Cook, 38, has been out-ofform batsman for Transvaal, despite scoring more than 2,000 runs in the last three



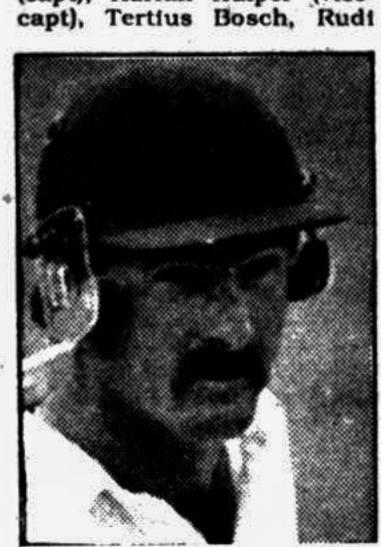
seasons with English country Somerset.

Peter Van Der Merwe, convenor of the Board of Selectors, said though he could still call on players not . listed.

was orange free state

spinner Omar Henry, who will turn 40 before the tour starts. A suggestion that the squad should take two non-white players, graduates of an eightyear-old scheme to take cricket to the townships, was dismissed by leading players and pundits, who insisted the team be picked on merit.

Squad: Kepler Wessels (capt), Adrian Kuiper (vice-



KEPLER WESSELS...caaptain JIMMY COOK...overlooked

Bryson, Hansie Cronje, Darryl Cullinan, Allan Donald, Omar Henry, Andrew Hudson, Ray Jennings, Craig Matthews, Brian, McMillan, Jonty Rhodes, David Richardson, Michael Rindel, Mark Rushmere, Brett Schultz, Tim Shaw, Richard Snell, Corrie Van Zyl.

# Indian cricketers dealt an embarrassing blow



MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec 30 : India's beleagured cricketers were dealt an embarrassing blow Monday

when the Australian Cricket Board brushed aside their protest against Umpire Len

King, reports AFP. The Board confirmed that

King would officiate in at least one of India's three remaining World Series one-day matches in January.

The tourists wanted King out for the rest of their tour after disputing his decisions in the second Test which



Indian batsman Dilip Vengsarker attempts to dig out a Yorker from Australian fast bowler Craig McDermott on the fourth day of the second Test in Melbourne on Dec 29. Vengsarker top scored in India's second innings with 54 runs, but it was not enough to stave off an 8-wicket defeat - AFP photo by the Australians.

PERTH, Dec 30

The newly for-

med common-

wealth of Inde-

pendent States.

until recently the

Soviet Union, had

their run through the Hopman

Cup mixed team tennis event

cut short by Switzerland on

Malceva-Fragniere won a hotly

contested struggle 2-1 to be-

come the first team into the

semtfinals, despite a 6-3, 7-6

victory for Andre! Cherkasov

over Hlasck in the men's sin-

Fragniere scored her 10th

successive win over Natalia

NEW YORK, Dec 29

Spectators fighting their way

into a packed auditorium for a

celebrity basketball game

stampeded late on Saturday

and at least eight people were

crushed to death and 28 in-

said, reports Reuter.

jured in the panie, officials

to 1,000 people tried to force

their way into the charity bas-

ketball game, also featuring rap

singers, at a city college of

New York Gymnasium in

The deaths occurred as up

But Manuela Malecva-

Jakob Hlasek and Manuela

Sunday, reports Reuter.

Swiss nail in Soviet coffin

Zvereva 5-7, 6-0, 6-2 and then

combined with Hlasek for a 6-

22. 6-1 triumph over

Cherkasov and Zvereva in the

mixed. The commonwealth of

Independent States had beaten

will meet either Spain or the

Netherlands in the semifinals

nated Henri Leconte put sev-

enth seeds France into the

quarter finals with a sparkling

6-4, 2-6, 6-3 win over

after his partner, the fast im-

proving Julie Halard, beat

Manhattan, said Lynn Schu-

lman, a spokeswoman for the

city's emergency medical

cameraman inside the gymna-

stum and shown on NBC tele-

vision showed youthful specta-

tors struggling to get in

through a single door as those

behind fought to get past

the game.

A rap concert was to follow

A video shot by an amateur

Catarina Lindqvist 6-4, 7-5,

Leconte's win scaled the tie

The Hlasek-Cherkasov

Sweden's Peter Lundgren.

The fourth seeded Swiss

Earlier in the day a rejuve-

Britain in the first round.

on Thursday.

8 die in NY stampede

Australia won in four days Sunday.

They were tight-lipped at the Australian decision.

Singh Mahendra refused to comment on the move, saying: "I have not heard officially about this yet, so it is not right for me to comment." The Board refused to alter

the roster of umptres for the second half of the World Series from January 9 which was fi-

Richards did not specify which match involving the Indians would be umpired by King.

India play the West Indies 11 and Melbourne on January on January 14 in their remaincompetition.

distributed to the Board's Umpires Committee for further action, Richards confirmed his faith in its interna tional panel of umpires.

that we have confidence in al the umpires on our panel." "Umpires are really like batsmen - just because you

until later in the week when appointments for the fourth and fifth Tests will be made. Mcanwhile, Peter McConnel and Steve Randell, who supervised the first Test in Brisbane

India, who were beaten inside four days in the first two Test, trail 0-2 in the five-Test series.

match was a volatile encounter

which almost exploded at the

start of the second set when

Cherkasov spat on the court in

anger after Hlasck had appar-

duct warning from the Umptre

and regained his composure to

I was angry," he said. "He

aimed the smash right at my

: "Yes, I tried to hit him," he

said. "I thought it was the easi-

est way to win the point. We

were both a bit tense and

Leconte, currently ranked a

lowly 161, said his famous

Davis Cup final win over world

number six Pete Sampras car-

lier this month had given his

"It proved I can play well

again," he said, "and that I have

no more back problems. It's

always a pleasure to play the

Davis Cup. It's the best thing

for a player and winning was

The popular Frenchman

served 14 aces against

Lundgren but he and Halard

now face the toughest Test - a

quarter final against the tour-

nament favourites - Germany's

Boris Becker and Steffi Graf.

the highlight of my career."

tennis a new lease of life.

After the earlier tie

these things happen."

Cherkasov received a con-

"I spat on the court because

Hlasek admitted the charge

ently aimed a smash at him.

take the victory.

#### Local cricket resumes today

Sports Reporter

The Navana Premier TDivision cricket league resumes today after a lay-off owing to inclement weather with Brothers Union taking Rupali Bank in the only match of the day at the Dhaka Stadium.

Meanwhile, the Milnars First Division cricket engagement also starts today at the Mirpur Pallabi ground with Bangladesh Railway facing Ajax Club.

#### Border warns of more

MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec 30: Australian captain Allan Border warned the Indians that worse was in store for them after the tourists crashed to a stunning defeat in the second cricket Test here Sunday, reports AFP.

"I don't think we played at our best, but we are happy to win in four days," Border said soon after scoring the winning run which gave Australia a 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

He described man-of-thematch Bruce Reid's 12-wicket haul as "sensational" but was surprisingly unhappy with other performers.

"I think both Craig McDermott and Merv Hughes can bowl better and our fielding on the first day left a lot to be desired." "These are areas we would

like to improve because then we will be a difficult side to bcat," he said. "I am looking forward to

the Sydney Test and should have little problems if we play to our full potential," Border remarked.

The Australian skipper praised the umpiring standards in the match which had carned the wrath of the Indians.

"These were tough conditions for umpiring with the ball moving about and going up and down, Border said. "I think the umpires handled it quite well."

Border refused to comment on the written protest by the Indians against umpire Len King's work in the Test.

"I do not know about the letter, you will have to ask the ACB (Australian Cricket Board) about it," he said.

None of the Indians were available for comment, having left for their hotel soon after the match.

#### Peerless Skah

HOUILLES, France, Dec 30: Morocco's Kalid Skah, the world cross country champion, shrugged off his Kenyan rivals to win France's most popular road race here in Paris' Western suburb on Sunday, reports AFP.

Skah won the Houilles race for the fourth time, comfortably beating Kenya's Osoro Ondoro by half a minute before crowd of 35,000. Fellow Moroccan Rachid

Basir was-third and another Kenyan, Ibrahim Kinuthia, was Zohra Roulou made it a

Moroccan double by winning the women's race. Men:

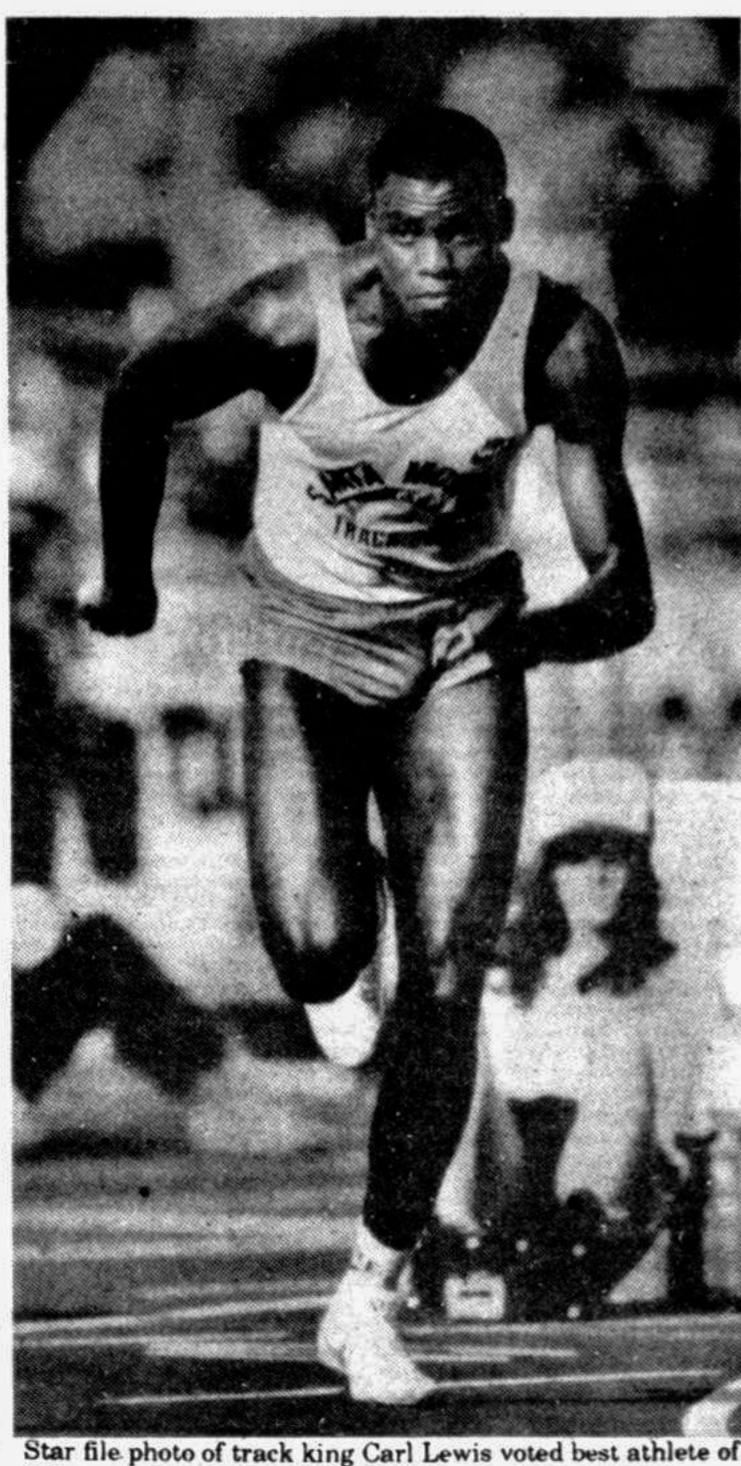
26min 08sec 2. Osoro Ondoro (Kenya) 26:36 3. Rachid Basir (Morocco) 26:53 4. Ibrahim Kinuthia (Kenya) 27:04 5. Eddy Depauw (Belgium) 27:43.

#### Spikers' meet Sports Reporter

An emergency meeting of the Volleyball Players' Welfare Association (VPWA) will be held at 3:30pm on January 3 at the Dhaka Volleyball Stadtum, said a VPWA press release.

All members of the executive committee of VPWA have been requested to attend the meeting.

## Sports Oscar for Lewis



World F-1 champion

MILAN, Italy, Dec 30: Carl Lewis, the world track champion and recordman in the 100 meters, was picked as best athlete of 1991 in a survey conducted by Italy's largest sports daily Gazzetta dello Sport of Milan, reports

Reflecting choices of most media in the world, Gazzetta awarded the American athlete the "Sport Oscar" of the

Lewis received 640 points. Two other track and field stars, Mike Powell and Sergei Bubka, finished second and third with 565 and 492 points respectively.

Powell and Bubka captured the world titles and set world records in the long fump and pole vault during 1991.

Ayrton Senna of Brazil finished fourth. David Campese, who led

Australia to title in the World Rugby Cup, placed seventh ahead of Italian ski star Alberto Tomba. Magic Johnson, the

American basketball who recently announced his retirement, was ninth in the survey, with 144 points. Gianni Bugno, the Italian

of Tomba. World sprint champion

Katrin Krabbe of Germany was named the best woman athlete of the year while the French Davis Cup team was awarded the title of best squad of the year.

## BRTC karatekas shine

Sports Reporter

The karatekas of the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) bagged two golds on the second day of the three-day with national karate championships at the National Sports Council gymnastum yesterday. In the 55-kg men's section,

SM Rahmatullah of Dhaka University won the gold while Rowshan Lal of Bangladesh Ansars picked up the silver and Saiful Islam of Chittagong Port Trust settled for the bronze.

In the men's 60 kg weight category BRTC's Zaman took

Mohammad Nurul Islam Niru of Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board pocketed the silver while Mohsin Imam of Bangladesh Ansars managed the bronze.

In the women's 48 kg category, Rehana Hashem Luna of BIRTC stole the show with the

Ansars' Shamima Akhtar Tult and Kasmir Khan Rosy of

cyclist who won the world road title, led the lists of the

best national athletes ahead

## Bogra district picked up the

silver and bronze respectively.

Today, the concluding day of the 30-team competition, will be followed by prize distribution ceremony at 4 pm which will be graced by Mujibur Rahman, State Minister for Finance and the Japanese ambassador to Bangladesh Toshiko Saiki.

### DMP win title

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Mctropolis Police team won the championship trophy by beating Khulna Metropolis Police by 15-8, 15-6 scts in the final of the 1991 Bangladesh Police volleyball championship yesterday at the Rajarbag Police Lines ground.

Inspector General of Police M Enamul Haque witnessed the final match and gave away the awards among the winners as chief guest.

Organised by the Dhaka Range of Police, nine teams took part in the competition.

Joyjit Chowdhury of Chittagong versus Md.Firoz Alam of No Trumps during their 9th national karate championship match at the National Coaching Centre yesterday.

### Becker outlines his plans for 1992

PERTH, Australia, Dec 30: Three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker spoke here Sunday of his plans for 1992, reports AFP.

would like to be the number one (in the world) for a little longer than in 1991, and maybe win a Grand Slam, too," the 24-year-old German said at his first media conference in two months.

Becker, currently ranked number three, held the top ranking for about seven weeks this year. He is in the Western

Australian capital to take part, with Steffi Graf, in the mixed teams' Hopman Cup tourna-The German pair will have

final of the 600,000 Australian Dollar (4,56,000 U.S.) 12 nation event at the Burswood Superdome. Becker said he was now fit after being out of action for 10 days with virus, the latest ill-

their first clash today when

they meet France in a quarter-

ness in a chain of health problems which disrupted his 1991 programme. "My first aim is to try to play as well as I can, and then I will probably become number

one again. I will go step by step," he said. "I hope that in the new year I can stay healthy for longer, and play five to six tournaments in a row. I would like to

play in as many tournaments as possible in the new year." Becker said he saw the Hopman Cup as a good way to get in shape for the Australian Open next month, in which he will be defending his men's

singles title. His singles clash with Frenchman Henri Leconte today will be a challenge, he said. "Leconte is in good form, and I will have to play well," he said, adding, "It will be a good test

for me." When he partners Graf he will be taking part in a mixed doubles contest for only the second time.

#### Shriver' sweet revenge

BRISBANE, Dec 30 : American veteran pan Shriver on Monday scored her first singles victory since mid-October, defeating Akiko Kijimuta of Japan 6-4, 6-4 in the first round of the dirs 150,000 Denone Qucensland Open, reports AP.

Shriver avenged a defeat by Kijimuta in the first round of the same tournament last year.

The two-time champion. back to 37th in the world rankings after recovering from shoulder surgery, hit to hard and served too accurately for her out-gunned opponent, who was the beaten finalist here 12 months ago.

"I was a little unsure of how I would play, but for the most part I didn't make too many mistakes," Shriver said.

If I play consistently well, serve well, I think I can get through a few rounds, but it is far too early to think about being a contender."

Shriver now plays Mana Endo of Japan, a 6-1, 6-4 victor over American Stacey The ninth-seeded Shriver

was joined in the second round of the 56-woman event by 12th-seeded compatriot Linda Harvey-Wild and 13thseeded fellow American Debbie Graham. Harvey-Wild hit some excel-

lent groundstrokes in defeat-

ing experienced German Eva

Pfaff 6-1, 6-3, while Graham

downed Karin Kschwendt of Germany 6-4, 7-6 (7-3). Petra Thoren of Finland, who aims to improve her current ranking of 96 to a top 50 spot within the next 12

months, scored the only upset of the day. Thoren played consistently to defeat erratic No 15 seed Larissa Savchenko of Latvia 6-

1, 6-2. Thoren repeated the victory she scored over Savchenko in the second round of this year's French Open.

"I knew I had a chance to win, but I expected it to be a lot tougher," Thoren said. Thoren spent Christmas Day on an airplane flying from the sub-zero temperatures of Finland to sunny Guccnsland,

but said she had adapted quickly. "Beating top players like Savchenko gives you the confidence you need when you play other leading players," Thoren

Thoren next faces Sandrine

Testud of France, who ad-

vanced when compatriot Nocile van Lottum suffered An ankle injury in the first set of their match and had to retire. The top eight players, led Jana Novetna of

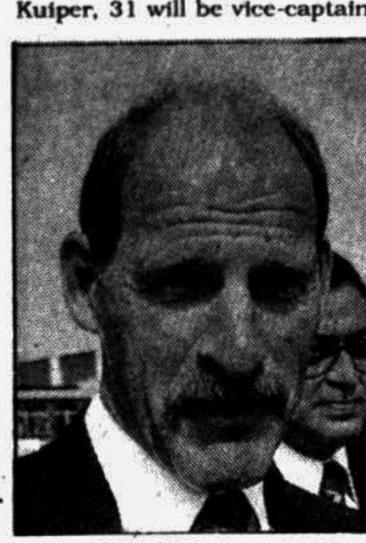
Czechoslovakia, have first round byes in the tournament. The event is part of the Kraft General Foods tour, offers a first prize of dlrs 27,000

and is being played on syn-

thetic Rebound Ace courts. One of a series of warm-up events for the Australian Open.

it continues through Sunday.

apartheid.



Selectors were reportedly

The only non-white player

Team manager Ranbir

nalised before the second Test Board Chief executive David

twice - in Brisbane on January 16 - and Australia in Sydncy ing matches of the triangular Even as copies of India's written protest were being

"We are not going to judge anyone on a one-off basis," he said. The decision to make a series of appointments shows

doesn't mean you should be dropped because you can't play," Richards said. The verdict of the Umpires Committee is not expected

make a duck in one innings

earlier this month, will stand in the third Test in Sydney from Thursday.

# 1. Kalid Skah (Morocco)