

# Wessels plans retirement

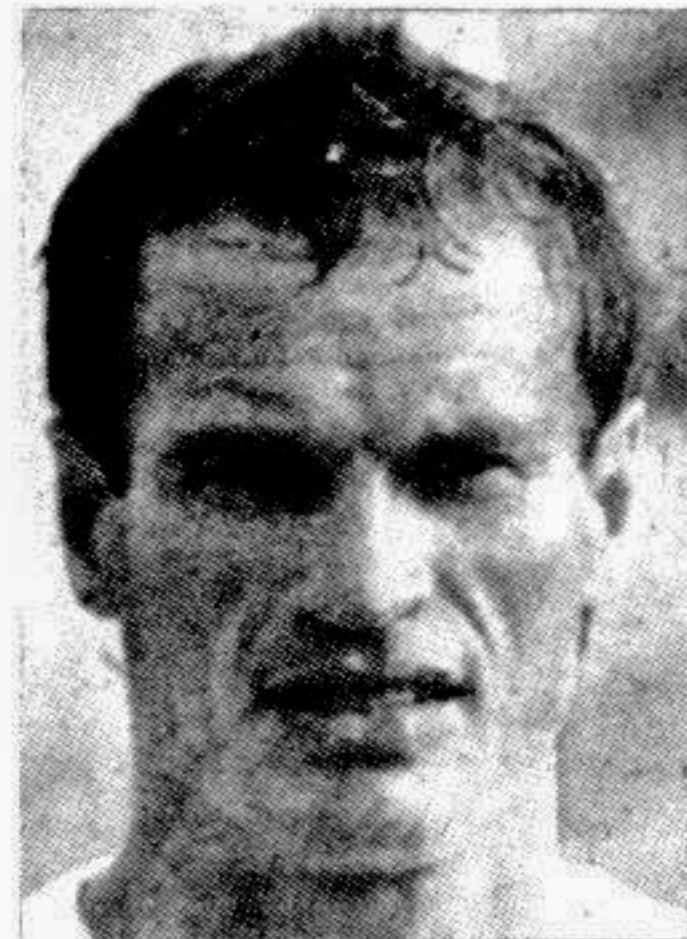
**JOHANNESBURG**, Dec 21: Kepler Wessels, who played Test cricket for both South Africa and Australia, has decided to retire from the game at international level, reports Reuter.

Wessels, 37, said on Tuesday: "There comes a time when you know you have to call it a day."

Ali Bacher, head of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, said Wessels had made the decision to retire after talks with himself and con-

venor of selectors Peter Pollock over the past two days. Bacher described him as "one of the gutsiest cricketers" he had known.

Wessels quit South Africa during its years of sporting isolation caused by apartheid and playing 24 Tests for Australia, opening his international ca-



KEPLER WESSELS  
reer with a century against England.

He returned to play for South Africa in their final series of matches against a rebel Australian team and soon after the country was readmitted to international cricket was appointed captain of the national squad.

Wessels led South Africa to the semifinals of the World Cup in Australia and captained them in 13 Tests, drawing series with Australia and England, beating Sri Lanka and India and losing a one-off Test against West Indies.

He stepped down as captain last month and South Africa lost to New Zealand in the first Test they played under new skipper Hansie Cronje. Since then, knee trouble and a broken nose, with accompanying sinus problems, have bothered him.

"In simple terms, he has a gut feeling that the time is right for him to retire from Test cricket," said Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board.

Wessels said he planned to continue playing provincial cricket for Eastern Province in South Africa.

# Intikhab pads up again

**ALICE**, South Africa, Dec 21: Pakistan team manager Intikhab Alam stepped out of retirement to lead his team to a crushing 143-run victory over an Eastern Cape Invitation XI in a 50-over match on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

It was hardly a testing comeback for the 52-year-old former Test player as his side won with 18 overs to spare, having reduced the invitation team to 12 for six at one stage.

Replying to the Pakistan total of 260 for seven, the home side had no answer to the pace and accuracy of Aaqib Javed and Aatur Rehman.

Four of the first five batsmen were out without scoring and four wickets fell with the score at eight — three of them to Aatur Rehman.

Intikhab saved the match from becoming a total farce as he withdrew his opening bowlers, Ghafek Abrahams was clearly delighted as he hit an unbeaten 77, including seven fours, to give the final total of 117 some respectability.

Remarkably, he was the only Eastern Cape player to reach double figures. Aatur Rehman finished with five for 18 from seven overs, Aaqib (two for six from three and Intikhab) himself grabbed two for 36 from nine overs of leg spin.

Opener Asif Mujtaba ensured a sizeable Pakistan total with 101 scored from 105 balls with nine boundaries.

Other useful contributions came from fellow opener Shakeel Ahmed (31) and all-rounder Manzoor Elahi with an unbeaten 45 from 34 deliveries.

# Inter-varsity cricket from January 20

The inter-university cricket competition will begin on January 20 next year at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), reports UNB.

University teams from all over the country are expected to take part in competition, said a press release yesterday.

# SL after Botham, Border

**COLOMBO**, Dec 21: The Sri Lankan cricket authorities admitted today that negotiations are underway to secure Allan Border or Ian Botham as national team manager, reports AFP.

"Duleep Mendis requested the blessings for the board to negotiate with Ian Botham and Allan Border to secure their services as a consultant to the board," Sri Lankan cricket board secretary Anura Tennekoon said in a statement.

Mendis, the chairman of selectors, plans to get sponsors to pay the bill if either of the former Test stars agree, Tennekoon said.

Press reports have said for more than a week that Mendis was looking for a foreign manager. But this was the first reaction from the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka.

the initial stages," said Tennekoon, who rejected media speculation that the board had a preference for one of the players.

"The only point of consideration involving Botham and Border was the timing of the assignment in terms of their heavy international and other commitment," Tennekoon said.

Tennekoon would not comment on reports that former England all-rounder Botham was certain he would get the job instead of the Australian. Botham was quoted in the British press as saying that "if the terms are right and the money is right I'll take it."

"The Sri Lankan board have approached Border but I know the job is mine if I want it. I love Sri Lanka as a country and the Sri Lankans are lovely people. Frankly, I am flattered that they want me," Botham was quoted as saying.

The move to appoint Sri

Lanka's first overseas manager follows some poor results, including humiliating Test series defeats to India and Pakistan.

Following a three-Test drubbing in India earlier in the year, differences between the then cricket manager Bandula Warnapura and key players came into the open.

Skipper Arjuna Ranatunga and five others pulled-out of a limited-over contest in Sharjah in April, following the result of a fitness test that disqualified vice-captain Aravinda de Silva from the tournament.

Former Test cricketers have frequently called for a professional cricket manager to improve Sri Lanka's chances.

Since Sri Lanka earned Test status in 1981, the West Indies' Sir Garfield Sobers, England's Ted Dexter and Don Smith and Australian Peter Phillipott—have all helped Sri Lanka cricket.

# No Sheffield Shield cricket now: Lara

**BRISBANE**, Dec 21: West Indian batsman Brian Lara said Tuesday that any entry into Australia's Sheffield Shield cricket would have to wait until after his international career, reports AFP.

Lara and former West Indies wicketkeeper Jeffrey Dujon are playing the Jack Newton Celebrity Classic on the Sunshine Coast, North of Brisbane, reports AFP.

Asked if he would like to play a summer in Australia like his cricket idol Viv Richards, the young world record holder for first-class and Test runs said: "Sure, I'd love to — but the way the international programme — is at the moment it is probably impossible right now."

"Maybe after I've achieved my international ambitions, and if somebody asks me, I could play in Australia."

Richards made a guest appearance for Queensland when the international cricket calendar was less congested.

Lara broke the world Test batting record by blasting 375 runs against England last April, beating Sir Garfield Sobers 36-year-old record of 365.

Six weeks later he set a world first class batting record with 501 net runs for English county Warwickshire against Durham breaking the previous record held for 35 years by Hanif Mohammed of Pakistan with 499.

After 16 Test matches Lara has a batting average of 62.62.

# Izvestia Cup hockey Russia's

**MOSCOW**, Dec 21: Russia got a first-period goal from defenceman Sergei Sorokin on Tuesday night and made them stand up for a 1-0 victory over the Czech Republic in the championship of the Izvestia Cup hockey tournament, reports AP.

Finland edged the pre-tournament favourites, Sweden, 2-1 in overtime to capture third place in the international competition.

Sorokin's goal at 13:56 of the opening period came when his slapshot from the blue line deflected off a stick and into the net over the right shoulder of Czech goalie Roman Cechmanek.

Cechmanek staved off five other good Russian scoring opportunities, although the two teams played fairly equally for most of the game. Sergei Abramov was perfect in the Russian goal in front of 9,364 spectators at Luzhniki Stadium arena.

The victory was worth 70,000 Swiss francs (dfrs 93,000) to the Russian team, while the Czechs got 50,000 Swiss francs (dfrs 66,000).

"I am very grateful to my guys for this victory," said Russian coach Boris Mikhailov. "I hope that at the World Championships we will have several players from North America. If they don't start the season in the NHL."

He particularly mentioned defenceman Alexei Kasatonov, who could seriously strengthen the Russian team at the world championships in Sweden in April and May.

Finland's Seku Koivu scored the winning goal in the third-place game in the 20th second of overtime.



An AFP file photo dated Sept 5, 1990 shows Czech-born American tennis star Ivan Lendl flipping his racket during the US Open in Flushing Meadows. Lendl, who held the world number one spot for a record 270 weeks, announced the end of his career yesterday after a long-running battle with a back problem.

# Injury forces Lendl to quit

**NEW YORK**, Dec 21: Ivan Lendl found an opponent he couldn't beat: his own body.

"This is totally it for me," Lendl said Tuesday in announcing his retirement from tennis. "My back doesn't allow me."

Lendl said it was ironic that an injury would force out tennis' fittest player, reports AP.

"I would have liked to deal with it on my own terms," he said by conference call. "Ideally, you would like to end on a winning note. I would like to be involved in the game in another capacity, but no playing."

Lendl, 34, held the world's No 1 ranking for a record 270 weeks. He fell out of the top 10 last year for the first time since 1979 and now is ranked 54th in the world.

"It is never easy," he said of retirement. "It is not something you deal with everyday."

But he said he made his decision after his doctor told him his back would not get any better.

"After the US Open, I've had more and more problems," he said. "I've even tried to play a couple of senior events and found I couldn't do that."

"I enjoyed playing the game, had a lot of great times and I will miss it."

Lendl's retirement comes one month after Martina Navratilova announced she was leaving the women's tour. Both clearly left their stamp on tennis.

Both were born in Czechoslovakia and have become US citizens—Navratilova in 1981, Lendl in 1992. Both were at the tennis forefront of using diet and conditioning to raise their level of play.

Lendl, with an iron will and overpowering forehand, won 94 titles and more than dfrs 20 million. Navratilova, second only to Lendl in earnings, captured a record 167 tournaments.

Like Navratilova, it took time before Lendl won over the crowds partial to Bjorn Borg, Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe.

His gaunt face highlighting his high cheek bones, his all-business approach on court and Eastern European background in the Cold War era all helped to make Lendl the "heavy", especially to American crowds. He feels he wasn't appreciated in those days.

"The serious part of me is a misconception," he said. "I always had fun. I would say I had more fun than most of the guys. That's just my nature. I'm just a joker."

Tell that to his many victims.

Asked which players he liked to face, Lendl said: "My favourite ones were those I never lost to. The nicest guys I met on the tour."

When asked if he remembered beating Connors 6-0, 6-0 at the WCT tournament of champions at Forest Hills, his only comment was, "That's hard to forget."

Asked which tournament performances he remembered best, he said: "Obviously the '84 French. I think the '81 French final is another one. Just those two come to mind immediately."

In the 1984 French Open, Lendl came from two sets down in the championship match to defeat McEnroe and earn his first Grand Slam tournament title after failing in four other finals.

He reached his first Grand Slam final at the 1981 French

Open, losing in five sets to Borg, the only time he faced the Swede in a Grand Slam final.

"At that time there was no telling how good I was going to get," Lendl said.

Lendl won the US Open in 1985, '86, '87 and was runner-up in 1982, '83, '84, '88 and '89, reaching the title match a record-tying eight consecutive years.

Lendl also won the French Open in 1986 and '87, and the Australian Open in 1989 and '90. During that period, anyone caught in the buzzsaw of Lendl's forehand was left in shreds.

His biggest disappointment was never winning Wimbledon, although he reached the final in 1986, losing to Boris Becker, and in 1987, losing to Pat Cash.

Lendl began his career as a clay-court baseliner with a weak backhand that was exploited. But he worked hard and his backhand became almost as big a weapon as his forehand.

In a bid to win Wimbledon, he hired Australian Tony Roche as coach and began more of an attacking game.

"If I was 15 or 16 again and I knew as much about the game as I know now, I would have done something a little different," Lendl said. "But that's not an option."

The last couple of years have been different, especially 1994.

In January, he reached the fourth round of the Australian Open, where he ran into eventual winner Pete Sampras. At the French, he was a first-round loser to Arnaud Boetsch. He skipped Wimbledon, then was forced to retire during his second-round match at the US Open in September.

And, after being the only man to win at least one tournament every year from 1980 through 1993, this year saw him go title-less on the tour.

"I'm going to spend a lot more time with my family and with my business," Lendl said of his wife Samantha and their four daughters.

His company, Spectrum Sports, manages two tennis clubs.

# Bhola Lal wins Biman Open squash title

Bhola Lal Chauhan clinched the second Biman Open squash title beating Ram Jagadish 5-9, 9-7, 9-3, 10-8 in the keenly-contested final at the Gulshan Club yesterday, reports BSS.

Bhola Lal and Jagadish reached the final beating Muhiit and Sohail respectively in the semifinals.

Nuruddin Al-Masud, Secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed the trophies.

# Lock denies paedophile charges

**SYDNEY**, Dec 21: Former English Test cricketer Tony Lock told an Australian court on Wednesday he was innocent of paedophile charges, reports Reuter.

Lock, 65, an off-spinner who took 174 wickets in 49 Test matches for England during the 1950s and 1960s, faces four indecency charges over an alleged incident involving the 10-year-old daughter of a friend in 1980.

On the first day of his trial in the Perth district court Lock denied the charges, declaring: "I am not guilty."

Lock, who has lung cancer and has been given as little as three months to live, moved to Perth to coach and play for the western Australian state cricket team at the end of his Test career.

The girl, now aged 24, told the court that Lock, whom she called uncle Tony, penetrated her while she lay in bed during an overnight stay at his property on the outskirts of Perth.

Lock said he could not even remember the girl coming to stay at his house but added he had always had a poor memory, which had become worse because of medication he was taking.

During her evidence, the unidentified woman said she had stayed at Lock's home during the August school holidays in 1980 because she and her daughter were friends.

She told the court that she was lying on her stomach reading when Lock came into the guest room to kiss her good-night.

Lock asked if he could tuck her on her back and when she agreed he then asked if she could roll over so he could tuck her on her stomach.

She said Lock then moved his hand up inside her pyjama top, kissed her passionately and later penetrated her.

Lock was charged with the offences on December 1, 1993, after the woman contacted police on the day before Operation Paradox, a phone-in operation to report child abuse.

She said she did not tell anyone about the alleged incident until about six months before she reported it to police. She said she first disclosed it after her younger sister became suspicious that something had happened and spoke to their father.

# Tomba's fourth in a row

**LECH AM ARLBERG**, Austria, Dec 21: Alberto Tomba captured his fourth consecutive slalom of the season — and sixth straight over two seasons — as he won a men's World Cup slalom Wednesday, reports AP.

Tomba came from a .02 second deficit after the first run to post a 0.2 victory over Thomas Sykora of Austria. Tomba's total time was 1 minute, 43.57 seconds.

Michael Tritscher of Austria was third, 1:44.34.

Thomas Fogdö of Sweden was fourth, 1:44.52, with Ole Christian Furuseth of Norway fifth, 1:44.52.

Jurij Kosir of Slovenia, who was third on Tuesday, was sixth, 1:44.98.

Tomba had an impressive second run, nearly stopping midway through the course after losing his balance. He had to brake hard to just get his skis inside a gate and regain his rhythm.

# MLS not ready to kick off

**WASHINGTON**, Dec 21: American organizers provided a first-rate World Cup this year, but then squandered a golden opportunity to capitalize on the unprecedented interest with an elite US league, reports AFP.

The 24-team championship played to 3.5 million spectators in nine cities, providing front-page news and commanding major television attention.

Even golf and baseball were overshadowed by the exploits of Brazil, Italy and others.

But the memories have faded quickly. Football is rarely mentioned now that basketball and American football seasons are well under way.

Even baseball and hockey shutdowns did not create room for football because no US league was there to fill the void: FIFA-backed Major League Soccer (MLS), run by World Cup chairman Alan Rothenberg, was put on hold until April of 1996, the same month a new US baseball league plans to start.

"Nobody could have predicted the situation the US sports community is in now," US World Cup defender Alexi Lalas said.

"I'm still very optimistic. But just from what I've been hearing, there's so much negative energy. Organizers are going against a country of other sports."

Rothenberg went from the World Cup to surviving a political fight to remain president of the US Soccer Federation, US indoor and outdoor low-level leagues fought against Rothenberg, who won with support of youth football leaders.

Critics said Rothenberg should not be running the league and the US organization, saying others could have had a league ready for next April as had been projected.

Rothenberg said MLS would keep the momentum of the World Cup, then announced the delay until 1996, ending any hope of lingering support from the world's most popular sports event on a skeptical US audience.

FIFA gave a letter of support, but their goal of a US league in place after the World Cup went unfulfilled.

"Like a fine wine, you only open it when it is ready," said Stu Subotnick, owner of the MLS team in the New York area.

"We've looked at some of the mistakes that were made in the past and we wanted to make sure they didn't happen again. Soccer has been an orphan in our country too long. We want it to last for centuries."

Pele had similar dreams 20 years ago when he played in the North American Soccer League (NASL), which died a decade ago.

"The failure of the NASL scared off a lot of potential investors," said Marc Rapaport, the owner of a Los Angeles MLS team.

"The World Cup showed maybe things have changed," Rothenberg promises several international matches in MLS markets in 1995 to sustain interest, but two of the league's 10 debut cities have not even been decided yet.

## টেভার নোটিশ

১। টেভার নোটিশ নং ১২/১৯৯৪-৯৫।

২। কাজের নাম : পটুয়াখালী জেলাধীন গলাচিপা থানায় ১৬০-আইএনডি'র জাতীয় পোড়ার নং ৫৫/২বি-এর ৪টি ফ্রান্সি ইমপ্লট নির্মাণ কাজ এবং পোড়ার নং ৫৫/২সি-এর বিভিন্ন ভাঙ্গন স্থান বন্ধ করানো এবং বেড়ি বাঁধ মেরামত কাজ।

৩। ব্যয়াকৃত মূল্য : ১। প্রাপ্ত নং ১-এর প্রাক্কিত মূল্য ৭,১৬,০৫৮/- টাকা মাত্র। ২। প্রাপ্ত নং ২-এর প্রাক্কিত মূল্য ৭,০০,০৭১/- টাকা মাত্র। ৩। প্রাপ্ত নং ৩-এর প্রাক্কিত মূল্য ৩,১৫,০০৯/- টাকা মাত্র। ৪। প্রাপ্ত নং ৪-এর প্রাক্কিত মূল্য ১,০২,৪১১/- টাকা মাত্র।

৪। ব্যয়ানর টাকা : প্রতিটি ফর্মের প্রাক্কিত মূল্যের ২.৫০% হারে সাধারণ ব্যয়ানর টাকা এবং প্রতিটি প্রকল্পের ব্যয়ানর টাকা মূল্যের ১% হারে নির্দিষ্ট ব্যয়ানর টাকা জমা দিতে হবে।

৫। সরঞ্জাম গ্রহণ ও খোলায় তালিকা : সরঞ্জাম ২৬-১২-৯৪ইং তারিখ হইতে ২৬-১২-৯৪ইং তারিখ দুপুর ১২-০০ টা পর্যন্ত নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর/নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, ঢাকা পত্তর বিভাগ-২/বিশাল পত্তর বিভাগ/বরগলা পত্তর বিভাগ/উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী, বাসকটী পত্তর উপ-বিভাগ, পাটবে, বাসকটী পত্তর সরঞ্জাম গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং একই দিন ২৬-১২-৯৪ইং তারিখ দুপুর ১২-০০ মিনিটের সময় সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ কর্মকর্তার কর্তৃত্ব সরঞ্জাম খোলা হইবে।

৬। কোন শ্রেণীর : বালাসেপ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের সি এবং ডি' শ্রেণীর টিকাদারবাণ।

৭। টিকাদারবাণ সরঞ্জাম : অংশগ্রহণ করিতে পরিবেন।

৮। যে অফিস হইতে : নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর, নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, মরগঞ্জের দলিলপত্র : ঢাকা পত্তর বিভাগ-২/বিশাল পত্তর বিভাগ/বরগলা পত্তর বিভাগ/উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী, বাসকটী পত্তর উপ-বিভাগ, পাটবে, বাসকটী/ম্যানেজার, বঙ্গালী ব্যাংক, পটুয়াখালী, ম্যানেজার, সোনালী ব্যাংক, ওলাঙ্গা শাখা, মতিশাল বা/ওলাঙ্গা, ঢাকা হইতে জার্মানী ২৭-১২-৯৪ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত সরঞ্জাম করা যাইবে।

৯। বিজ্ঞাপনদাতার নাম : মোঃ তপস্বীর হোসেন, নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, পটুয়াখালী পত্তর বিভাগ, পাটবে, পটুয়াখালী।

১০। প্রতিক্রমা : পটুয়াখালী।

১১। বিজ্ঞাপনদাতার নাম : মোঃ তপস্বীর হোসেন, নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, পটুয়াখালী পত্তর বিভাগ, পাটবে, পটুয়াখালী।

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Nuisance  
5 Aquamarine, e.g.  
8 OK in any outlet  
12 Play opener  
13 History chapter  
14 Grand  
15 San Diego squad  
17 Incursion  
18 Ark contents  
19 Rejects with disdain  
21 One type of jockey  
24 Mainlander's souvenir  
25 Wear a rug in the rut  
28 "— be in England..."  
30 Cry loudly  
33 Silvery gray  
34 Board meeting prop  
35 Long March leader  
36 Hot tub  
37 Local

**DOWN**

16 F-J link  
20 Story line  
22 London area  
23 Amulet  
25 — de deux  
26 Venomous viper  
27 It goes without saying  
29 Genealogy graph  
31 One in a row  
32 Jazz style  
34 Hoofbeat sound  
38 Smack hard  
40 Mirror's offering  
42 Anderson's "High —"  
43 Lummo  
44 Headlight?  
45 Con game  
47 Sample recording  
48 Geraint's missus  
49 Lepidopterists' props  
52 Waste no time  
53 S.A. land

**WORD COD CARD**  
ALOE RUE OPIE  
FANCYERS ROPE  
LIVE TENDER  
CADDY DINE  
ALAE FANGANGO  
LEW MALES ALA  
FANTAILS OVER  
ARTY HAYES  
STARCH SOX  
HANG FANTASIA  
ELKE USA CORD  
MEAT LIP AWED

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 4-13**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

X D M Q R S J T Y D J Z I , L Y Z  
F D J S W D L Y S A X D J Q  
W D T Z X , " M ' F J S L  
F I X Z R W L S Q D I ."

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CIRCUS CLOWN MAY USUALLY ASK THE ANIMAL TRAINER, "HOW'S TRICKS?"**

**Today's Cryptoquip clue: J equals N**

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.