

Pakistan arrive in New Zealand

Waqar's pace on wane?

CHRISTCHURCH, Dec 6: Pakistan on Wednesday dismissed talk that fast bowler Waqar Younis was a spent force in Test cricket, reports AFP.

Team manager Intikhab Alam and vice-captain Amir Sohail made the point ahead of a one-off Test against New Zealand opening Friday as Younis works his way back to peak fitness.

Younis came back from a long lay-off with a stress fracture in his lower back during the just-finished tour of Australia.

His legendary pace was evidently missing in Australia — the only hint that he was working back to his old form came with a late three-wicket burst to wrap up the third Test win over Australia in Sydney on Monday.

Both Intikhab and Sohail had high praise for Younis' desire to return to his devastating best however.

"I don't think he is 100 per cent fit bowling wise, but physically he's all right," Intikhab said.

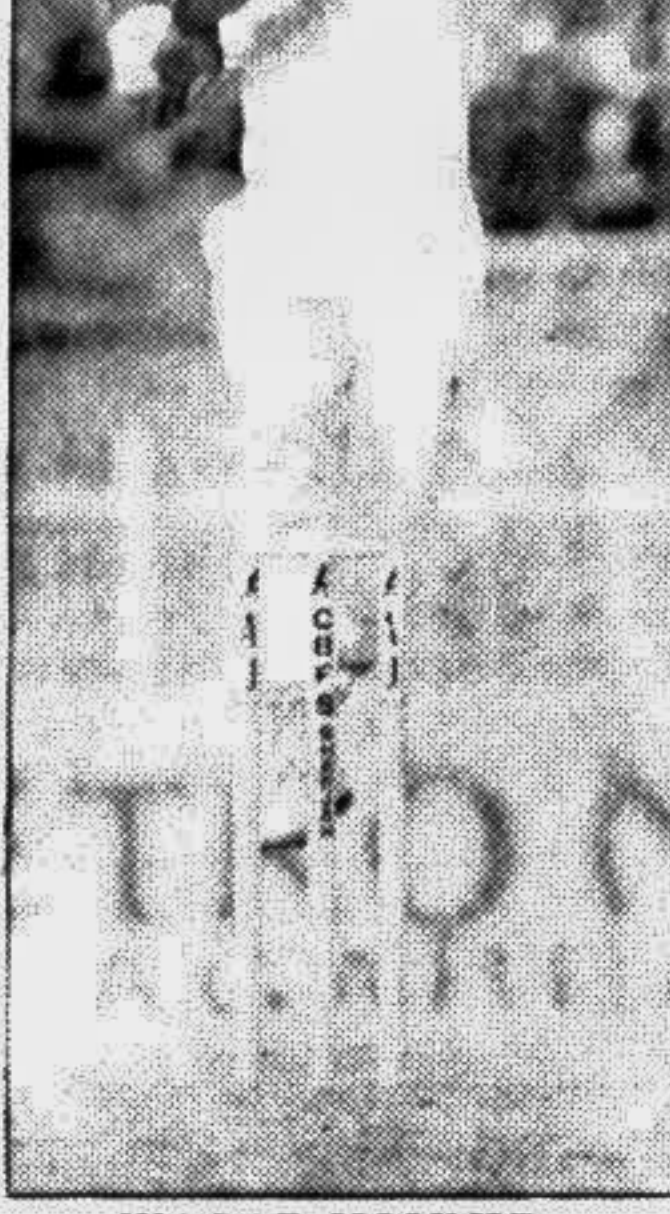
"I think he's got to lose some weight but it was a good sign the way he bowled in Sydney."

Sohail can testify to 24-year-old Younis' increasing sharpness: He was struck on the head by his teammate in the nets between the first and second Tests in Australia.

"He bowled very well in

the second Test, he started finding his rhythm and it's good to see him really running in," he said.

"He has been struggling and he's been very unlucky with injuries, but Intikhab



WAQAR YOUNIS has been working very hard with him and it's really good to see him fighting his way back to his top form."

Younis has every reason for wanting to be close to his

best in New Zealand, having enjoyed some of his greatest success against the Kiwis.

He took 5-20 in a one-day match against New Zealand at the Sharjah tournament in 1990. Later that year he snapped up 29 wickets at a staggering 10.8 runs apiece on New Zealand's three-Test trip to Pakistan. He has taken five wickets in a New Zealand Test innings five times and took a hat-trick in a one-day match at East London last December.

With captain Wasim Akram he has struck up one of international cricket's finest new ball pairings. But while Akram is fully fit and primed for the Test at Lancaster Park, Younis still has a point to prove.

The only selection query will be whether to use second spinner Saqlain Mushtaq or reintroduce a third fast-medium bowler.

The hard, grassy strip for the Test could mean a return for promising Mohammad Akram, who played the first two Tests in Australia.

Pakistan's batting options are limited and while they struggled in Australia, it's expected they will stick with the same line-up from the Sydney Test win.

"We struggled a bit in Australia and finally came up with the right combination and found our coordination," Sohail said.

"With a win under our belt it gives a bit of confidence."

Viv seeks an amiable solution

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Dec 6: Viv Richards has offered to help settle the dispute between Brian Lara and West Indies cricket officials, reports Reuter.

Lara pulled out of the current tour of Australia at the last minute after being fined, with three other players, by the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) for misconduct during the recent tour of England.

Richards said: "I carry no weight with the board, but I am so dismayed by the affair that, here and now, I volunteer to mediate in an attempt to get a batsman better than I ever was, back on track to help West Indies mount a serious challenge for the 1996 World Cup."

"They need only to pick up a phone," added the former West Indies captain in Tuesday's The Nation newspaper, which quoted a story in the Mail on Sunday newspaper.

Lara withdrew from West Indies' tour of Australia because, cricket sources say, he was upset at being penalised for an incident he was led to believe had been steered by the tour committee in England.

Richards believes the special privilege granted to Lara to return to Trinidad in June — just a few weeks after the tour started has come back to haunt the WICBC.

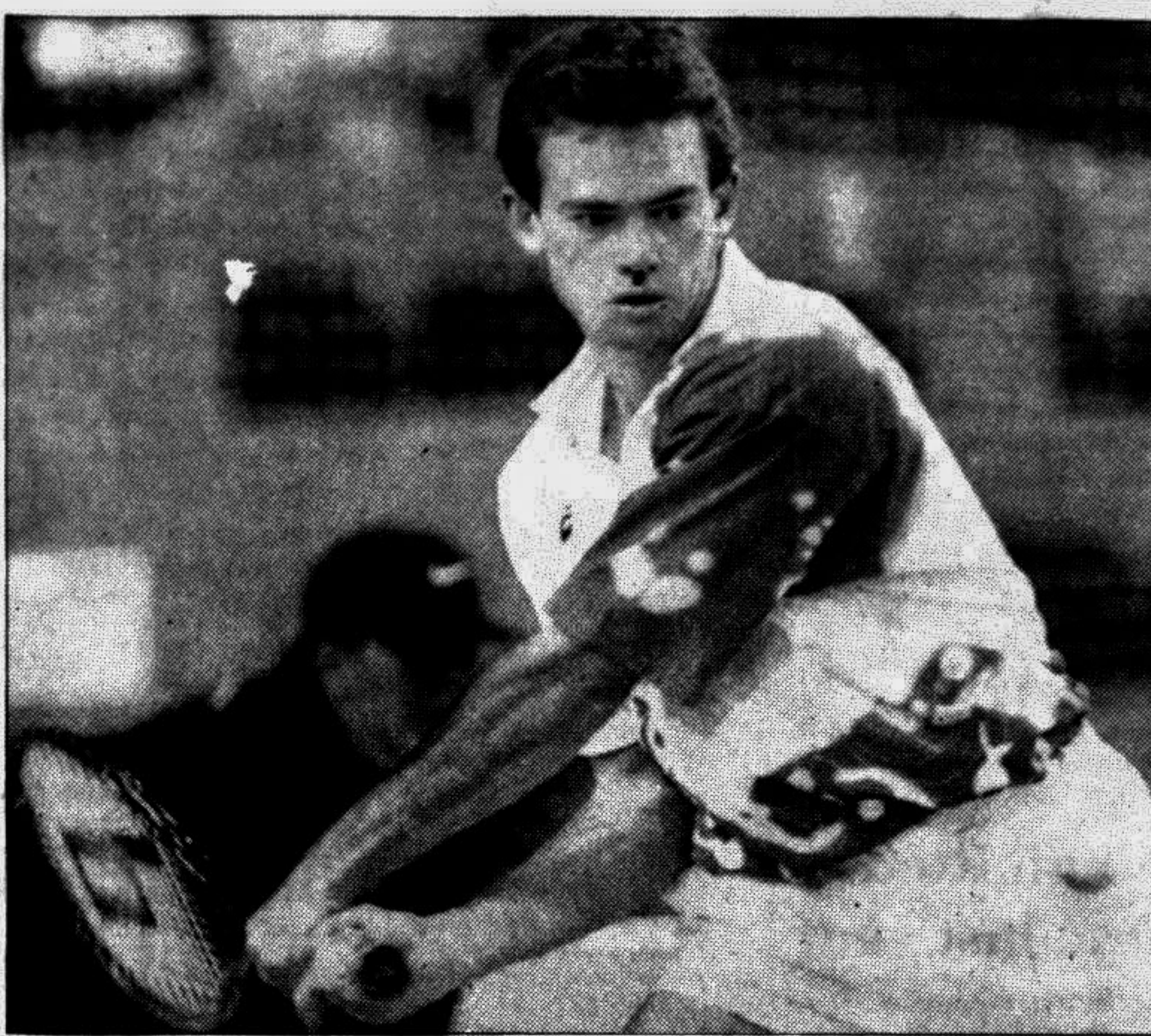
"In allowing Lara to quit the England tour briefly and return home on private business, the board set a precedent that bred more resentment than I have ever known in a West Indies tour party," said Richards.

Vialli gets World Soccer's vote

LONDON, Dec 6: Juventus and Italy striker Gianluca Vialli has topped the readers' player-of-the-year poll in World Soccer magazine, reports Reuter.

Vialli won 18.6 per cent of the votes. His club and international teammate Alessandro del Piero was second, almost 10 percentage points behind, the magazine said on Tuesday.

Bayern Munich's former Tottenham striker Juergen Klinsmann was third. European champions Ajax, whose boss Louis van Gaal topped the manager's poll, were voted team-of-the-year.



Upcoming Zimbabwean Byron Black makes a backhand return against Austrian Thomas Muster during their Grand Slam Cup encounter at the Olympic Hall in Munich on Dec 5. Black stunned the world No 3 7-6 (7-3), 2-6, 6-1.

Muster profits from loss

MUNICH, Dec 6: French Open champion Thomas Muster picked up a 350,000 dollars

pay packet despite a first-round defeat at the Grand Slam Cup tennis tournament on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Struggling with injuries to his right hip and left foot, the Austrian third seed was unable to show his best form in a 7-6, 2-6, 6-1 defeat by Zimbabwe's Byron Black at the six million dollar event.

But, as a Grand Slam champion, Muster walked away from the richest tournament in the game with 250,000 dollars for turning up plus the 100,000 dollars paid to all first-round losers.

Muster, who has enjoyed one of his best years on the circuit now heads for the sun and his farm in Australia where he will prepare for the Australian Open at the start of next year.

"The season was hard and so is my preparation for 1996," he said. "My holiday will now start a few days earlier."

The best performers at the four Grand Slams of the year — Wimbledon, and the US French and Australian

Opens-qualify for the tournament. There are no rankings points at stake, but the winner takes home 1.62 million dollars.

In the quarter-finals Black, a late replacement for the injured American Andre Agassi, now faces Boris Becker who played with the nerves of his home German fans before clinching a 6-2, 6-7, 9-7 victory over Frenchman Cedric Pionline.

The 28-year-old former Wimbledon champion's serve-and-volley game is perfectly suited to the fast indoor court, Becker, fresh from his victory at last month's ATP Tour World Championship, will be a

Peter pleads for early release

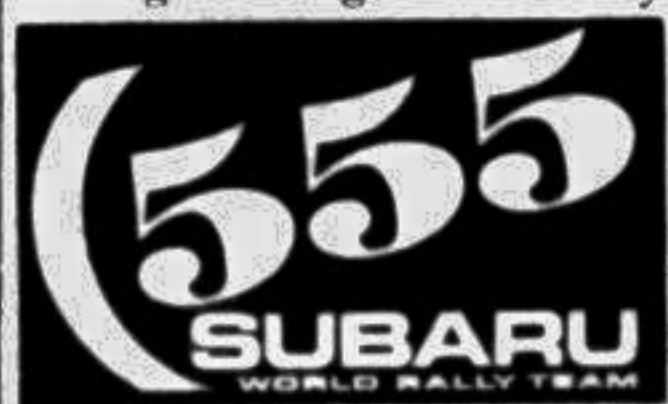
MANNHEIM, Germany, Dec 6: The father of tennis star Steffi Graf has made another request to be released from jail while German public prosecutors probe a multi-million dollar tax evasion case, his lawyer said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Peter Graf, who was jailed in August to stop his fleeing or hiding evidence supporting allegations that the Graf family dodged tax, hopes to have his case for release considered by Christmas, his lawyer Steffen Ufer said.

Burns falls short

In a dazzling display of skill, 555 Subaru World Rally Team driver Richard Burns closed to within just five seconds of first-placed Tommi Makinen in Monday's final leg of the Rally of Thailand. Yet amazingly, it was not enough even to secure second place, with Mitsubishi's Kenneth Eriksson also beating the 24-year-old British driver home — by a single second, says a press release.

For most of Monday's final six stages, Burns could do little to reduce Makinen's 21 second overnight lead. But in a final effort this afternoon he powered his way through the closing two stages of the rally



a full 15 seconds faster than the Finn.

Burns teammates Piero Liatti and Possum Bourne finished fourth and fifth respectively with Italian beating the New Zealander home by just 12 seconds.

Liatti contesting his first ever Asia-Pacific rally, admits that the event was something of an experience. "It was completely different to anything I've competed in before. The heat, the speed, the types of surface everything was new to me. So I'm very pleased to have finished fourth — I've learnt many things which will help me enormously in the future," he said.

For Possum Bourne, last year's Asia-Pacific Rally champion, the rally marked an upbeat end to what he admits has been a disappointing season. "I started the year hoping to take a third Asia-Pacific title but I finished fourth. However, this rally has helped tremendously to restore my confidence — I hope we get the chance to do it again next year," said Possum.

'98 World Cup draw safe, says FIFA

PARIS, Dec 6: The International Football Federation (FIFA) said on Tuesday the draw for the qualifying competition of the 1998 World Cup would go ahead in Paris next week despite the wave of strikes in France, reports Reuter.

FIFA issued a statement saying the draw would take place as scheduled at the Louvre next Tuesday amid fears the strikes could cause a postponement.

The world body said both the draw and FIFA executive meetings planned in the French capital from Saturday to Monday would be held as well.

The decision was taken after consulting French World Cup organisers, FIFA said.

Local organisers said on Monday they saw no difficulty in going ahead with the draw though they warned that international soccer delegations attending it might have to spend more time in traffic jams than they would like.

Transport strikes have crippled Paris with the railway, bus and underground metro systems all paralysed.

Star parade for Aussie Open

MELBOURNE, Dec 6: Next month's Australian Open will feature all the top 30 male players for the first time in the history of the Grand Slam event, reports Reuter.

Organisers confirmed today the men's field would be led by world number one Pete Sampras, his Davis Cup teammate and reigning champion Andre Agassi and the third-ranked Thomas Muster of Austria.

Spain's Alberto Berasategui, ranked 33, is one of the few top 50 players who will not contest the men's singles at Melbourne's Flinders Park from January 15-28.

The women's draw features 18 of the top 20 players, including joint number ones Steffi Graf and Monica Seles. The only two women in the top 20 who won't be playing are the sixth-ranked Magdalena Maleeva and number 11 Jana Novotna.

Tournament director Paul McNamee described the field for the first Grand Slam event of the year as "historic".

Courage truly personified

LONDON, Dec 6: There was very little work done at Mike Atherton's former school on Monday and its head cheerfully admitted they did not care a bit, reports Reuter.

Past pupil Atherton was on his way to becoming a national sporting hero and present pupils were listening with earphones to radio commentary from Johannesburg as he played one of Test cricket's greatest match-saving innings.

England captain Atherton batted 10 hours 44 minutes for an unbeaten, personal best 185 that secured an improbable draw in the second Test against South Africa.

Atherton's monumental effort, testimony to his unwavering concentration, utter determination, solid technique and courage in the face of some hostile, short-pitched fast bowling earned him plaudits from friend and foe alike.

It was a peak in an England career during which Atherton has emerged from his dirt-in-the-pocket controversy and an initially uneasy relationship with chairman of selectors Ray Illingworth to leave an indelible mark on the game.

Sometimes, stubborn, single-minded, often given to understatement, never flamboyant, Atherton's cricket destiny seemed clear enough to teammate during his early days in the first-class game when he was nicknamed "FEC" Future England Captain.

Certainly, at Manchester Grammar School, where work almost came to a halt during his epic innings on Monday, there was no surprise about his mounting achievements.

The school's head, high master Dr Martin Stephen, said on Tuesday: "Everyone here knew all along he was capable of such a thing. It was a combination of character and ability that is a symbol of what the school stands for. Mike hasn't changed a bit."

Atherton embarked on his route to the England captaincy in the late 1980s, when he led Young England teams in Sri Lanka and Australia in addition to being made captain of Cambridge University.

His Lancashire county cap and England debut both came in 1989, followed in 1990 by his first Test century — 151 against New Zealand at Nottingham which was his highest in Tests until Monday's marathon in Johannesburg.

Atherton was appointed England captain for the fifth Test against Australia in the 1993 home Ashes series, the beginning of a reign in which his batting positively thrived on the added responsibility of leadership.

Yet there was a time when he considered quitting the job in the wake of the dirt-in-the-pocket rumpus that broke during the Lord's Test against South Africa in 1994.

Atherton was shown on television rubbing his hand in his trouser pocket and then rubbing the ball before handing it to fast bowler Darren Gough.

There were British media calls for Atherton's resignation but he decided to con-



MIKE ATHERTON

tinued as captain, saying: "At no time during my career have I cheated or attempted to cheat and nor did I do so

on this occasion."

More off-field difficulties awaited Atherton later in the year when Illingworth, in London, criticised his captain, on tour in Australia, over strategy and his failure to telephone the selection chief to discuss problems.

Earlier this year, Illingworth became England's cricketing supremo, combining the roles of chairman of selectors and team manager, and his relationship with Atherton has subsequently followed a smoother course.

The pair have even been bridge partners on the current tour, and the sight of Illingworth and Atherton hugging at the end of the captain's great rescue act on Monday was perhaps not the least heartening aspect of what may be a significant turning point in English fortunes.

Andy Cole — lethal goal scoring talent

By Joe Bernstein from London

A shy teenager called Andy Cole once had to pluck up the courage to ask his football coach to borrow some money for a bag of chips. Five years later, Andy Cole is still shy. But now he has enough money to buy a chain of exclusive restaurants.

Football is loved throughout the world because of its ability to make dreams come true. And the way it can create legends from ordinary young men who just happen to have a talent for kicking a ball. The Andy Cole story is a perfect example. A quiet lad from a large family, he was destined for an ordinary life — had it not been for his multi-million pound talent for scoring goals on the football pitch. That talent has carried Cole the Goal a long way in a short time. Both in sporting and financial terms.

Like basketball superstar Michael Jordan in the United States, Cole's talent has broken all kinds of monetary records in his country, England. The most famous club in the land, Manchester United, paid an astonishing 7 million to secure Cole's services in January 1995. It was a cool 2 million more than any other player had been worth at the time. And the wages Cole was guaranteed would be enough to make a multi-national company director blush — let alone a 23-year-old music fan, who hailed from the provincial town of Nottingham.

Cole was reported to have signed a deal with Manchester United which would earn him 24,000 a week — and that is without bonuses. United know what they are doing however. Cole is so popular it is estimated the club will sell 1.5 million worth of Cole merchandise every year at Old Trafford.

Quacksilver Running Cole is so quiet off the field you do not even get a hint of what makes him so special. The transformation comes when he pulls on the team jersey and runs out the tunnel with his team-mates. Then, you notice the quick-

silver running and lethal shooting which makes United manager Alex Ferguson declare: "He can become one of this club's greatest ever goalscorers."

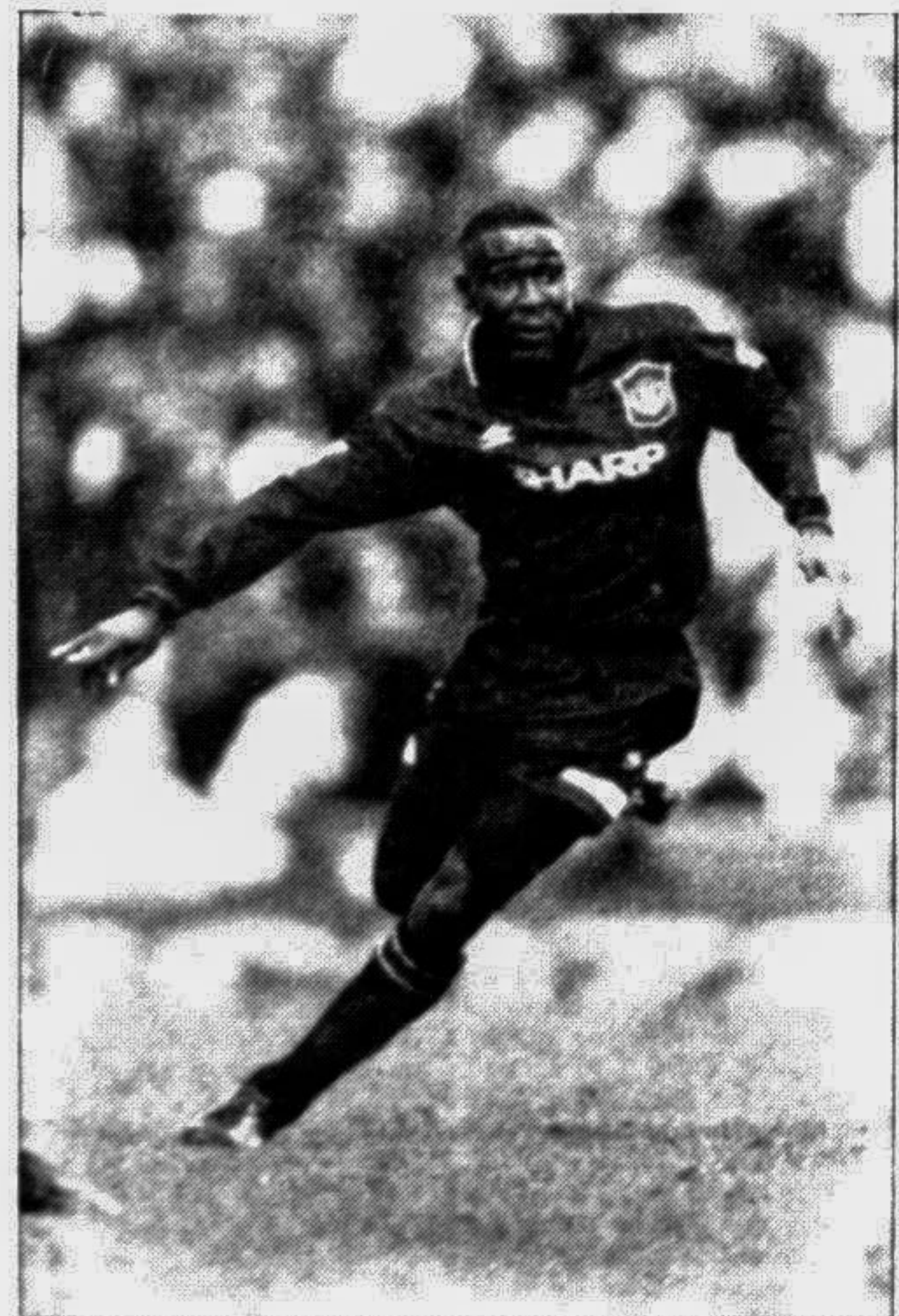
That is no idle remark. Remember, United have boasted all-time greats like Bobby Charlton, George Best and Eric Cantona in their line-ups. Ironically, Cole could have been starring for one of United's biggest rivals, Arsenal. Arsenal had Cole on their books as a youngster but manager George Graham regarded him as too laxy and, much to the young player's distress, sold him to Second Division Bristol City in 1992.

Cole's talent deserved to be on the big stage. And Newcastle United manager Kevin

Keegan paid 1.75 million in March 1993 to give the eager striker a chance in the big time.

Cole rewarded Keegan by scoring a club record 41 goals in 1993/94. The supporters idolised him but Cole was getting itchy feet. When Manchester United came knocking at the start of 1995, Keegan stunned the football world by sanctioning the record-breaking transfer, with Keith Gillespie of Manchester United moving in the opposite direction to Cole.

Cole will never have a better chance of getting into Football's Hall of Fame. He plays for Manchester United, the most glamorous team in Europe, and is finally estab-



Andy Cole is tipped to become one of football's all-time greats

Bangladesh Shipra Rin Sangstha
Head Office
141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area
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Dhaka

Law Department
Notice for sale of Mortgaged Assets and Properties of M/S. Trishal Automatic Rice Mills Limited, Trishal, Mymensingh

The mortgaged assets and properties of M/s. Trishal Automatic Rice Mills Ltd. Trishal, Mymensingh will be sold in terms of Article 34 of Bangladesh Shipra Rin Sangstha Order, 1972 read with the Bangladesh Shipra Rin Sangstha (Direct Sale of Mortgaged Property) Rules, 1981 on "as it is where it is" basis and on the basis of "Cash payment" to realise the BSRS's outstanding loans and dues of Tk. 14,762 million as on 01-07-1995 together with further interest and charges till realisation from the above named company and its directors listed at para-4 hereinafter.

02. The tenderers may submit their tender for the purchase of the entire properties mortgaged with BSRS as a whole or for land, building and machinery separately.

03. Bangladesh Shipra Rin Sangstha will not assume any legal obligation whatsoever on behalf of the company and/or its directors in respect of any dues/claims of government and/or autonomous bodies such as WASA, local municipality, electric and gas supply authorities, land revenue and other creditors for which the company is liable.

04. The following persons are the directors of the company:
(1) Mr. Amunul Haque,
S/o. Mr. Faziye Haque;
(2) Mrs. Lucy Akhtari Mahal,
W/o. Mr. Amunul Haque;
(3) Mrs. Monowara Khatloon,
W/o. Mr. Faziye Haque;
(4) Mr. Mominul Islam,
S/o. Mr. Moshennudin Ahmed; and
(5) Mrs. Shamsun Nahar,
W/o. Mr. Mominul Islam.

05. Description of Properties:
About one acre of land situated at Plot No. 1208, Khatian No. 999, Touzi-7, Mouza-Rampur, Sub-Mouza-Barampur Gram, Sub-Registration Office-Trishal, Dis-1-Mymensingh, together with an industrial unit capable of milling 10,800 tons of paddy per year. The machinery are of mainly Indian origin.

06. The details of the mortgaged assets and properties and tender schedule containing the terms and conditions of sale may be obtained on payment of Tk. 250.00 (non-refundable) from the Assistant General Manager, Law Department, BSRS, Head Office, Dhaka. The intending tenderers/buyers who are interested to inspect the project assets may contact the Assistant General Manager, Law Department, Bangladesh Shipra Rin Sangstha, Head Office, Dhaka.

07. The intending tenderers/buyers may submit their tenders/offers in sealed cover in the tender box kept at the BSRS aforesaid Head Office, Dhaka by 2:00 pm on the 27th December, 1995 accompanied with Earnest Money @ 5% of the tendered amount (refundable in case the offer is not accepted by the BSRS) in the form of scheduled Bank's Draft/Pay Order drawn in favour of the Bangladesh Shipra Rin Sangstha and payable at Dhaka.

08. The tender will be opened on the 27th December, 1995 at 2:30 pm at the BSRS above mentioned Head Office, Dhaka in presence of the tenderers, if any.

09. The successful tenderers shall have to deposit 50% of the tendered amount within a week and the balance within 30 days from the date of acceptance of the tender. In case of failure in making the payment of the tendered amount as aforesaid within the stipulated time the Earnest Money, 50% of the tendered amount (including earnest money) or any amount of the tender money deposited shall be forfeited and the mortgaged assets and properties will be eligible for resale.

10. The BSRS reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders/offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Assistant General Manager
Law Department
D-1222 Phone: 252406, 252016-7