### Crowe in WC squad

WELLINGTON, Dec 30: Star Batsman Martin Crowe has been named in the New Zealand squad for next year's World Cup tournament although he missed this month's series against Pakistan because of injury, reports AFP.

Crowe was included in the 18-strong squad announced by New Zealand Cricket, the country's national cricket authority today.

The final team of 14 will be announced on January 24. Also included, apart from the team which played Pakistan, are three former internationals making a bid to resume their careers at top level — opening batsman Blair Pocock, all-rounder Justin Vaughan and pace bowler

Kerry Walmsley. The promising leg-spinner. Greg Loveridge, who was 12th man for the series against Pakistan, has also been named in the squad.

The captaincy for the World Cup has not yet been confirmed but Lee Germon is expected to retain leadership of the team.

### **SQUAD**

Nathan Astle, Chris Cairns, Martin Crowe, Stephen Fleming. Lee Germon, Gavin Larsen, Greg Loveridge, Craig McMillan , Danny Morrison, Dion Nash, Dipak Patel, Adam Parore, Blaire Pocoek, Craig Spearman. Roger Twose. Bryan Young, Justin Vaughan, Kerry Walmsley.

## Father of British bodybuilding passes away

LONDON, Dec 30: A British bodybuilder Bob Woolger. who helped shape the career and muscles of Hollywood superstar Arnold Schwarzenegger, died this week at the age of 83, the Daily Telegraph reported today, says Reuter.

Woolger who suffered a stroke in April, is credited as the founding father of British bodybuilding.

He became close friends with Schwarzenegger when the young Austrian athlete trained at his gym in Portsmouth, southern England, in the 1960s.

"Arine telephoned dad in hospital several times and I hope he'll be able to come to the funeral or memorial service." Woolger's daughter. Dianne Bennette, told the Telegraph.

Schwarzenegger never forgot Woolger and arranged an 80th birthday party for his former instructor at his Planet Hollywood restaurant in London.

Woolger a former Olympic referee and British Royal Air Force physical training instructor, was a pionner of bodybuilding in the 1930s.

## Voeller to call it a day

BONN Dec 30: Veteran German striker Rudi Voeller said Friday he is to hang up his boots at the end of the season, reports AFP.

"There is a 99 per cent chance I will stop playing football at the end of this season as I no longer have the desire to play," the 35year-old Bayer Leverkusen star told The Express news-

Voeller, who returned to the Bundesliga with Bayer two years ago after spells with as Roma and Olympique Marseille, is believed to have received several offers to continue in the game in some capacity.

One option is to coach young players for the German football association, while Bayer may also appoint him to a position on the club's coaching staff.

The striker, who won the World Cup with West Germany in 1990 and won caps in all, could also opt to play a part in the development of the professional game in either the United States or He said Friday he needed

"a few weeks" before making a decision.

Voeller, nicknamed the "silver fox," started out with Kickers Offenbach before hitting the big time with Werder Bremen. He is to have a farewell testimonial against the German national team on May 21. Lankan management at the

# Mar 7 offers a fight night

EDMONTON , Alberta, Dec 30: Scott Olson of Canada will defend the International Boxing Organisation world flyweight title on March 7 against Colombia's Jesus Zuniga, reports AP.

Olson (31-2) and Zuniga (23-2 with 2 draws), will headline a card that will feature three IBO title fights. The card originally was

scheduled for Feb. 6 but was changed to accommodate television in the United States, promoter Glen Carriere said.

in the other championship fights at the Convention Centre, former Canadian Olympian Egerton Marcus will meet Eric Brown for the IBO cruiserweight title, and Tony Pep will face Israel Cardona for the junior lightweight crown.

Olson hasn't fought since April 28 when he broke his right hand for the fifth time against Jorge Luis Roman.

# Lankans stoop to Aussies

MELBOURNE. Dec 30: Australia bowlers Shane Warne and Glenn McGrath deepened the gloom surrounding Sri Lanka by sending the tourists crashing to a 10-wicket defeat in the second Test today,

Warne and man-of-thematch McGrath took two wickets each to wrap up Sri Lanka's second innings for 307, a lead of just 40 runs. on the fifth and final day at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

reports Reuter.

Australia openers Michael Slater and captain Mark Taylor comfortably steered their side to 41 without loss from just 7.4 overs to end the game 18 minutes before the scheduled lunch break.

Sri Lanka, who are fighting to save the Test career of spinner Muttiah Muralitharan after umpire Darrell Hair ruled his bowling action to be illegal during the Test, trail 2-0 in the three-Test series.

Taylor remained unbeaten on 25 alongside Slater, who hit the winning run off spinner Hashan Tillekeratne, on

Off-spinner Muralitharan suffered further humiliation today when he was dismissed for a first-ball duck after edging a catch to Taylor at first

The dismissal gave Warne his second wicket in successive balls after wicketkeeper Ian Healy stumped pace bowler Pramodya Wickremasinghe for 17. Spinner Jayantha Silva

survived the hattrick ball on his Test debut, denying Warne the distinction of achieving the feat in successive Test matches at the MCG. Sri Lanka captain Arjuna

Ranatunga, who needed a pain-killing injection because of an injured hand, was 11 Warne, who took a hattrick

against England last December, took four for 71 in the

Lanka for a summit with

controversial umpire Darrell

Hair, team officials said Sat-

urday after the visitors lost

the second Test, report

to clarify with Hair why just

seven deliveries were

deemed illegitimate of the

228 balls that off-spinner

Muttiah Muralitharan sent

down during the Australian

view - with Hair - the

videotapes of the three overs

during which Muralitharan

The ICC had no objection

as long as the ACB was happy

with it, but we were told by

the ACB it was not possible."

said Sri Lanka team manager

was called last Tuesday.

Sri Lanka also wants to re-

Sri Lankan officials want

Agencies.

first innings.

MELBOURNE.

Dec 30: The

Australian Cri-

cket Board has

turned down a

request by Sri

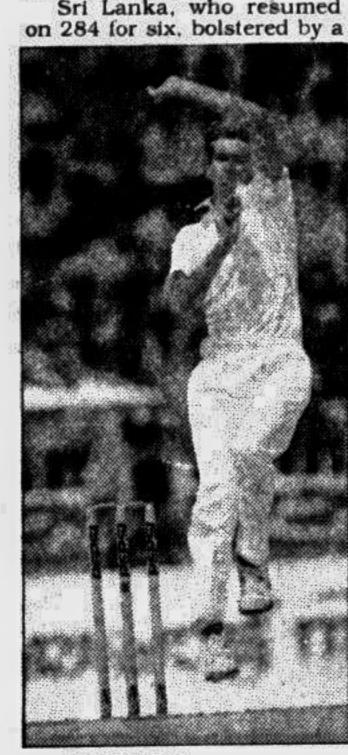
innings to become the first bowler in Test history to take 50 wickets in a calendar year for three years in succession.

Fast bowler McGrath, who took five wickets as Sri Lanka slumped to 233 all out in their first innings, took a wicket with his first ball of the day today.

McGrath forced pace bowler Chaminda Vaas to fend a short-pitched delivery to David Boon at short leg. The lanky bowler finished the innings by bowling Silva

ures of two for 92. Sri Lanka, who resumed

for a duck to finish with fig-



McGRATH ... m-o-m

superb 143 by number three Asanka Gurusinha, resisted for exactly one hour and 13.5 overs in adding 23 runs. Australia paved the way for

their crushing victory by scoring a massive 500 for six in their first innings. It was their second successive

ACB turns back on SL

The formal request was

made to the ICC by Anura

Tennekoon, the secretary of

the Board of Control for

they didn't the umpire to be

questioned after he had made

a decision. It was on that

grounds that the meeting was

turned .down." Tennekoon

derstand as to why the re-

quest was turned down -

"they didn't want to create an

unnecessary precedent for

they understood why their

official request to speak to

Hair after the match in order

to clarify his reasons for no-

-rejected by the Australian

Cricket Board.

balling Muralitharan had been

"I can understand their

Sri Lanka officials said

such future incidents."

Mendis said he could un-

"According to the ACB

Cricket in Sri Lanka.

comprehensive win following an innings victory in the first Test in Perth earlier this month.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the second Test between Australia and Sri Lanka at the Melbourne Cricket Ground Saturday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 500 for six declared (Steve Waugh 131 not out, David Boon 110)

SRI LANKA: First innings 233 (Arjuna Ranatunga 51, Romesh Kaluwitharana 50, Gleen McGrath five for 40) SRI LANKA: Second in-

nings (overnight 284 for six) Mahanama c Warne b Reiffel Hathurusinghe lbw b Warne Gurusinha Ibw b Reiffel 28 De Silva c Healy b McDermott Kaluwitharana st Healy b Warne Tillekeratne c Ponting b M Waugh Ranatunga not out Vaas c Boon b McGrath Wickremasinghe st Healy b Warne 17 Muralitharan c Taylor b Warne J Silva b McGrath Extras (b-7, lb-5, nb-8) Total: (116.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-11; 2-97; 3-168; 4-172; 5-255; 6-273; 7-285; 8-306; 9-306. R Bowling 54 McDermott 33.5 92 McGrath

AUSTRALIA: Second innings Taylor not out Slater not out Extras: (lb-1, nb-2) Total (for no wicket, 7.4 overs) 41

20

37

10

Reiffel

Warne

M Waugh

De Silva

59

71

19

Result: Australia won by 10 wickets Man-of-the-match: Glenn McGrath

Australia lead the three-

Test series 2-0. The third Test will be played at Adelaide Oval between January 25-29.

cision, then some people

might start questioning um-

pires after every game."

Mendis told reporters after

Sri Lanka's 10-wicket defeat

and wait. We can't do any-

"We just have to accept it

by Australia.

# FA being discreet

LONDON, Dec 30: If next year's European Championships are a success England could bid to host the 2006 World Cup, according to a report here Tuesday, reports AFP.

Forty years after a packed Wembley witnessed England's greatest triumph - the 4-2 World Cup final defeat of West Germany in 1966 - the country could once again play host to soccer stars from around the globe.

But a bid would depend on Euro '96, to be staged at eight venues around the country in June, passing off without serious trouble.

If successful, Football Association (FA) officials will begin the process of putting in a formal World Cup bid. according to a report in the Daily Mail

David Davies, the FA's director of public relations; is quoted as saying: "If Euro '96 is the success we all believe it can be, then I am sure the FA would look into the possibility of staging the next available World Cup in 2006. "It would be an ambition of

FA to bring the tournament back to this country and doing so would be a huge boost for our game." FIFA's policy in the past three decades has been to alternate the tournament be-

tween Europe and one of the

everyone connected with the

other continents of their six confederations. With the 1998 finals bound for France, Japan and South Korea fighting it out for 2002, it would be Europe's turn again four years

#### Karate competition The first Kashem Group

Karate competition began at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium here yesterday, reports BSS. Nearly 650 competitors

from 68 clubs are taking part in different weight categories in boys' and girls' group of the two-day meet, organised by the Shaolin Temple martial arts school. On the opening day, competition of six categories were completed.

### stitute Lee Tae Hong just four minutes before the end of the extra period saw the Koreans



reports AFP.

player, Al Nasser captain Ma-

jed Abdullah, who has played

more than 140 times for his

country, was unable to stop

his side slipping to defeat

Friday in a match that was

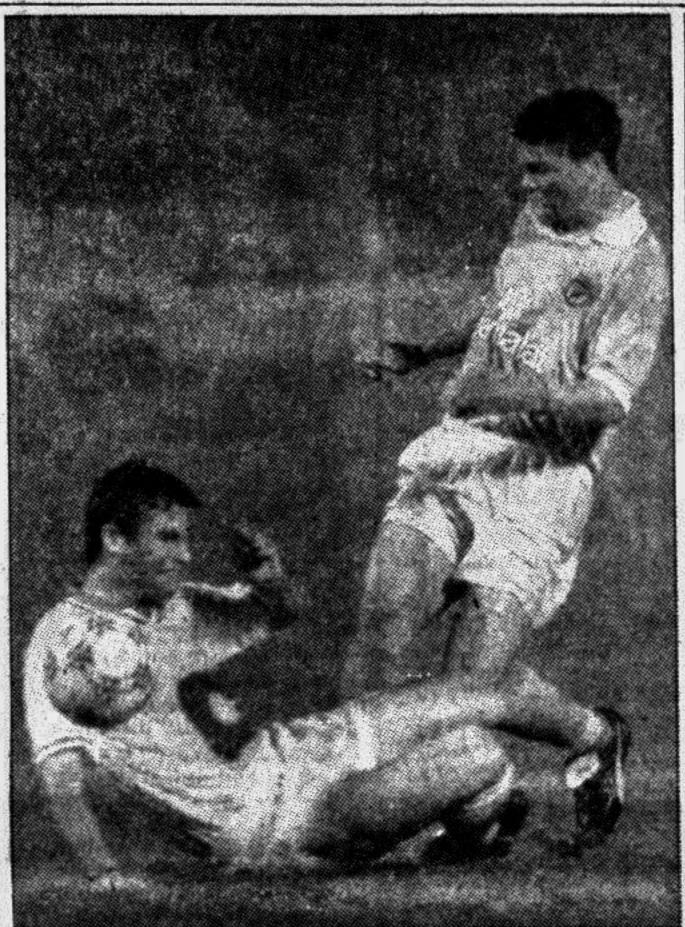
a dramaic sudden-death goal.

death extra ti-Daewoo Royals. me to beat Saudi champions

The defeat for host club Al Al Nasser 1-0 and lift the Nasser may well turn out to 15th Asian Club Championbe a sad farewell for Abdullah ship trophy at the King Fahd who will contemplate his International Stadium here. playing future over the next few days. The world's most capped

However, Al Nasser and Majed Abdullah did have their chances to win the game and the Saudi Arabian champions were denied only by the brilliance of Llhwa defender Stepuckine Gennadi. Russian defender Gennadi

decided, for the first time, by gave one of the best Performances from any player in A clinical finish from sub-



Benfica's young striker Edgar (R) tries to evade a sliding tackle by Uniao de Liria's defender Paulo Duarte during their Portuguese Premier league match in Lisbon on Dec 29. Benfica won the match 4-0. — AFP/UNB photo

the championship, controlling Uhwa's defence as Korean coach Park Jong Hwan looked to stiffle the freeflowing attacking football of

Al Nasser. Abdul Aziz Al Jenobi and Muhaisen Al Jaman tested Illhwa Chunma goalkeeper Valerii Sarytchey in the first

five minutes. But slowly the Seoul-based side imposed their defensive will on the game and Gennadi, whose contract with the Korean club expires this weekend, became increasingly prominent as he thwarted several of Majid's

The Koreans rarely threatened the AI Nasser goal in a match overflowing with commitment and played at an astonishing pace. When a rare chance did present itself, late in the second period of extra-time they made no mistake.

Korea's 1994 player-ofthe-year, Ko Jeong Woon, controlled a cross-field ball inside the penalty area before cutting back to Lee who squeezed the ball past Hudhi Alodsari at his near post just four minutes before the dreaded penalty shoot-out was due.

tims in the first game, Iranian side Saipa, faced the last years champions Thai Farmers Bank, earlier in the day in the play-off for third place. Luck deserted the Iranian

champions as they hit the crossbar through Sabih Saran before the Thais took the lead via Phanuwaht's closerange header in the 42nd minute. The Thais doubles their

lead 16 minutes after halftime when Worrwoot's excellent first touch allowed him to lob the ball over the advancing Jajal Mohbobi in the Saipa goal.

within a minute when Mehdi curled a delightful free-kick around the farmers' wall from the edge of the penalty area but it was not enough to stop the former champions taking the bronze medal.

# Tale of triumph, trivia & tears world 3,000m steeplechase



ple jumper Jonathan Edwards unleashed an eve-popping bounce while American

sprinter Michael Johnson registered an unprecedented double triumph to highlight the athletics year in the World Championship season. reports Xinhua.

door world records fall and some invincible legendary figures tarnish their names at the drug-clean fifth World Athletics Championships in August in Gothenburg, Swe-

shocked the world with extra class shows above the rest of track and field giants. but flashed their talents in different manners.

17.44-metre leap before this season, claimed the year's highest prize with ease when he beat the world record twice in 20 minutes with a pair of fabulous jumps of 18.16 and 18.29 metres. The father of two obliter-

ated his own old record by a

grind his teeth and burnt out the last ounce of his energy by running eight tough races in seven days before chalking up the unprecedented double victory in the 200 and The 28-year-old first

stunned the world with the year's fastest time of 43.39 seconds in the one-lap final and boosted his winning the world record

second fastest time in history in the 200m final with 19.79 seconds. The historic double win and the all-win record this year brought Johnson the US athletics highest honour. Jesse Owens award of 1995. Two more world records

pionships by Kim Batten of the United States in the women's 400-metre hurdles and Inessa Kravets of Ukraine in the womentriple nump. Batten, who had dreamed to beat the world record the

track with a time of 52.61 seconds. Kravets, Olympic long

night before the final, mate-

rialised her fancy on the

lassie is the brightest star outside the World Championships He cracked two world records in the men's 10 000 metres and 5.000m.

With the 5.000m record

#### Like Morceli, Kiptanui record holder, grabbed the also geared himself up hot too early and failed to 5,000m record away from choose the right time to the Ethiopian briefly, but

two months later, Gebrsewassie fought it back again in Zurich with a time of Sergei Bubka, who had set 18 outdoor and 17 indoor world records in the past decade, also registered a

world record of other sort

by winning his fifth

consecutive world title in the

men's pole vault. The 32-old is the only man in the world to collect five world titles. Some big names including Noureddine Morceli of Algeria and Moses Kiptanui landed their third straight world crowns

Gothenburg. Morceli, IAAF best athlete of 1994 with an ambition to beat every world mark from 800 to 10,000 metres cracked four world records this season. He beat the world indoor marks for the 1,000 and 2,000 metres. then went on to smash the world outdoor records in the 1,500 and 2,000 metres

But at the World Championships in Gothenburg, the gifted runner dared not to shot for a new record time in the 1,500m final on August 11 due to his seventh finish in a tactical failure at the Barcelona Olympics. The 'history's greatest

in July.

miler ran a sit-and-kick race good enough for the gold medal, but his 3:33.73 finish was well outside his personal best of 3:27.37

show his talent. He stunned the world by setting the June 8 in Rome, but in the steeplechase, he could only clock 8:04.16, the third best mark all time.

Ribeiro, Germany's Daniela Bartova and Russia's Olga Kuzenkova set new world records respectively in the women's 5,000m, pole vault and hammer throw.

The year also witnessed Cuba's Ivan Pedroso sail 8.96 metres, one centimetre more than the world record set by Mike Powell of the United States in the men's long jump in July at an altitude ski resort of Italy. The leap was first announced as a legal one, but the IAAF later found the jump was aided by strong tail wind.

100 metres champion Linford Christie of Britain. world high jump record holder Javier Sotomayor of Cuba, long jump king Powell, world most versatile heptathlete Jackie Joyner-Kersee of the United States. women's long jump giant Heike Drechsler of Germany. women's world 800 metres No. 1 Maria Mutola of Mozambique were all well beaten.

sprinter Gwen Torrence almost fainted when the newly-crowned world 100 metres, champion, learned

was stripped off since she stepped out of her lane during the final. She finished a clear wirner in 21.77 seconds at of her nemesis Merlene Ottey of Jamaica, but the lat-

> ter gained the gold later. Torrence took a revenge by

> coach Ma Junren and his runners. China, which ranked second overall with four golds. three silvers in Stuttgart World Championships in 1993, only landed one silver

in Gothenburg.

# the cold

MELBOURNE. Dec 30: Veteran batsman David Boon failed to win back his place in Australia's limited overs side for the World Series competition despite a century in this week's second Test against Sri Lanka, reports Reuter.

Australia made only one

change to the 12-man squad

to face West Indies at the

Kasprowicz.

ar tournament with a maximum six points from three matches played earlier this month.

Boon, who was dropped from the one-day side after a succession of low scores in Test and Sheffield Shield cricket, hammered a deflant century against the Sri Lankans. Reiffel proved his recovery from a hamstring injury by helping Australia to a crushing 10-wicket win over the tourists at the Melbourne Cricket Ground

Series matches because of a groin injury, missed out again after suffering a hamstring strain in scoring an unbeaten 131 in his side's first innings at the MCG.

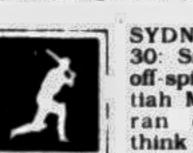
Healy, Michael Bevan, Stuart Law, Shane Lee, Craig Mc-Dermott, Glenn McGrath, Ricky Poting, Paul Reiffel, Michael Slater. Shane Warne, Mark Waugh.

## Kostadinova's third

jump record holder Stefka Kostadinova was voted Bulgarian athlete-of-the-year for the third time on Friday. reports Reuter

medal at the world champiouships in Gothenburg in August, a few months after

### Murali firm to fight out that Muralitharan's right el-SYDNEY. Dec next game we play. The next



Duleep Mendis.

30: Sri Lankan off spinner Muttiah Muralitharan does not think he throws in his bowling according to

action. published reports Saturday. say agencies. Umpire Darrell Hair called Muralitharan for throwing

seven times during the first day of the second Test against Australia on Tuesday at the Melbourne Cricket The Australian newspaper also quoted a Melbourne-

based surgeon, commis-

sioned by Sri Lankan team

management to examine Muralitharan, as saying that the bowler was physically incapable of straightening his elbow in his action. Muralitharan was not called again after swapping to the end controlled by New Zealander Steve Dunne, but Hair apparently warned Sri

tea break on day two he was about to no-ball the off-spinner from either end. Muralitharan said his unusual bowling action was due to a family trait - he and his three brothers apparently

had bent elbows at birth. "Sometimes I am thinking better to give up the cricket and go back to my family and my father's business, not to play cricket again." he was

quoted as saying. He is Sri Lanka's leading Test wicket taker with 81 from 23 matches. Muralitharan said in the

report he was "very upset"

after being called by Hair. "It distracts me. And after that my thinking was not in the game, he said "But I know in my mind that I'm not chucking so I

can fight for that ... by his

calling of 31 balls I bowled

before him, 24 were perfect and seven were not perfect. "If you take those 31 balls and show it to the lawyer or the judge or whatever, I think they will see no differ-

ence, then why call me for chucking?" lon batsman Barclay Reid.

bow - his bowling arm - had a "fixed deformity" of 32 degrees while his left was bent at 26 degrees.

The report also is said to state that the angle in Muralitharan's elbow, at certain angles, could give the impression the arm straightened during delivery.

Under cricket rules, a bowler can be no-balled for throwing if the action starts with a bent elbow but the arm straightens when the ball is delivered.

"No straightening of the elbow took place during delivery or just before it," the newspaper quoted Reid's report as saying.



MURALITHARAN

Sri Lanka, however, will support off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan by selecting him for their next match. team officials said today.

The 23-year-old spinner would definitely play in the limited overs match against West Indies on Wednesday. team manager Duleep Mendis told reporters.

"Only one umpire called him for seven deliveries and we will play him next game. We will play him game by game. Mendis said

thing about it." Mendis said. adding that Sri Lanka officials had been cleared by the ICC to request a meeting with But Hair gained some support from Australian captain

Mark Taylor, who praised the umpire's courage in making such a controversial ruling. "He is just doing his job as he sees it. Under the rules of the game he feels the guy is not bowling legitimately so

he is doing his job and I take

my hat off to him for doing his job," Taylor said. "I have an opinion on the matter but I am not going to say what it is because it doesn't matter what I think it only matters what the um-

#### point because what they are trying to say is that if it is going to happen after every depire thinks at the time."

ent way.

ments.

# we should leave him out of

would fight to clear his name, the Australian newspaper reported today. "I know in my mind that I am not chucking so I can fight for that. I have some

umpire might see it a differ-

Muralitharan said he

points in human rights to fight my case," he said. Muralitharan said he wanted to prove himself a legitimate bowler to protect the integrity of his achieve-

"If I can't play any more

cricket at Test level or any

level, then I go back home

and all the people will say. all the people will think in their mind, that I have chucked and taken 81 wickets in Tests. They will think that I have cheated this game. Because of that I don't want to leave it. Even if I close my ca-

nothing wrong in this," he told the paper. Mendis said Muralitharan's Australian tour future will be decide on a match-tomatch basis - and how he would come up in the eyes of the other Australian umpires.

reer I will fight for my human

rights because I have done

the next match and see what will happen," said skipper Arjuna Ranatunga. The Sri Lankan management felt although Muralitharan has been no-bailed for throwing, there was no pres-

sure on the other umpires in

the future to call him.

has called him at this stage.

We are happy to play him in

"It is just one umpire who

"It will depend on the umpires. I don't think any umpire has to no-ball him because someone has done in the past. If that happens it is because it has been set up. "The umpires will have to do their job and we'll see

what's going to happen."

Sri Lankan coach Dav

Whatmore the former Australian Test player, thinks it will be better for everyone if the management is informed 30: Britain's tri-

The year also saw 10 out-

Edwards and Johnson

The 29-year-old Briton. whose personal best was a

margin of 31 centimetres and became the first man to surpass the 18-metre barrier. The new record which was dubbed as a 'feat of the next century brought him the honour of the IAAF best male athlete of the year. Johnson, however, had to

400 metres

streak to 46 finals. The time was only 0.01 second shy of He went on to clock the

were rewritten at the cham-

jump silver medalist, bounced 15.50 metres to smash the old world record by 41 centimeters on August 10. Ethiopia's Haile Gebrse-

already to his credit, he set a new world record in the 5.000m world record on

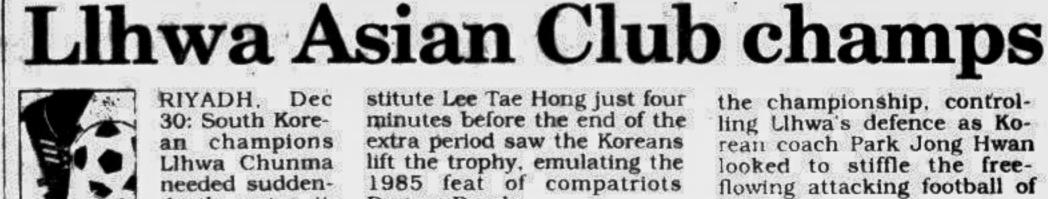
Portugal's Fernanda

Super stars like Olympic

American women star



ing attempt of Cleveland Cavahers Dan Majerle (L. during the first half of their NBA game in New York on Dec - AFP/UNB photo



lift the trophy, emulating the 1985 feat of compatriots

attempts to break the deadlock.

The South Korean's vicother beaten semifinalists.

Saipa pulled a goal back

that her 200m gold medal

beating Ottey in the 4x100m China's former 'Ma family army runners, who shocked the world in 1993 with a series of world record-beating performances, failed to qualify for the World Championships due to a bitter dispute between

# Boon left in

Sydney Cricket Ground on January 1, recalling seam bowler Paul Reiffel in favour of fast bowler Michael Australia lead the triangu-

today. All-rounder Steve Waugh. absent from the early World

#### SQUAD Mark Taylor (captain). lan

SOFIA, Dec 30: World high Kostadinova won a gold

giving birth to a son.

10 000m with a time of of any new developments be-The surgeon, former Cey-26 43 53 early this season. fore a game rather than dur-Kenya's Moses Kiptanui. apparently said in a report "There is no reason why

Ranatunga said.