

## Clemente not happy about absent Ayala

MADRID, Jan 3 (Reuters/Internet): Real Betis coach Javier Clemente has no idea when his Paraguayan World Cup defender Celso Ayala might return to the club.

Ayala, who played in all four of Paraguay's matches at France '98 and who is rated as one of the best central defenders in South America, went to his native country for the Christmas break on December 21 and has yet to return to the Seville club.

The player, in a brief message to Betis, said that he had extended his stay at home because of the health of his father.

"This is the first time something like this has happened to me in over 20 years as a coach," a puzzled Clemente said on Sunday. "But if he's not coming, he's not coming."

Clemente suggested that there was a distinct possibility he might never see Ayala again.

"He has said to the club president several times that he has never liked being in Seville but he wants to be transferred for free and that would mean we would not get back the money we paid for him," Clemente added.

Ayala was signed from the Argentine club River Plate at the start of the season.

## Russia reach last four

WINNIPEG, Jan 3: Denis Arkhipov scored 7:33 into overtime and Russia beat Finland 3-2 to advance to the semi-finals of the World Junior Ice Hockey Championship and eliminate the defending champions, reports AP.

Arkhipov slapped in Iouri Dobryshkhine's pass to avenge last year's 2-1 overtime loss in the final in Helsinki.

Finnish netminder Mika Lehto, who had no chance on the winner, put in a solid performance before 6,960 fans at Winnipeg Arena.

Lehto was brilliant, particularly late in the second period and throughout the third as the Russians trailing 2-1, pressed for the equalizer.

Dmitri Kirilenko finally beat Lehto at 13:47 of the final period, converting a rebound off a shot from the point by Vitali Vichnevski to force overtime. Roman Liachenko also scored for Russia.

Niklas Hagman and Teemu Elomero scored Finland's goals.

Russia, which finished 3-0-1 during round-robin play in Group B, meets Slovakia on Monday in the semifinal round. The Slovaks finished first in Pool A with a 3-1-0 record to earn a bye into the semifinals.

Canada and Kazakhstan were to play Saturday night in the other quarterfinal. The winner takes on Sweden in the other semifinal on Monday afternoon. Sweden received the bye after finishing atop Pool B with a perfect 4-0-0 record.

The Russians dominated the first period, surrendering just six shots and shelling Lehto with 15.

Their only goal, however, was an even-strength marker from Liachenko who finished off a 2-on-1 rush with Petr Stchastliviy at 10:10.

Finland had plenty of flash early in the second period, scoring two quick goals to take a 2-1 lead.

In the third, Russia again pressed Lehto finally scoring with its 10th shot of the period. Kirilenko was all alone off to Lehto's right, and he made no mistake on the rebound for the tying goal.

## Capello replacing Van Gaal?

BARCELONA, Spain, Jan 3 (Reuters/Internet): Barcelona have signed a pre-contract with Fabio Capello to take over at the Catalan club next season, Spanish newspapers reported on Thursday.

According to the reports, Capello, who was replaced as coach of AC Milan in May this year but is still employed by the Italian club, will sign a three-year contract worth 1,500 million pesetas (10.64 million dollars) beginning on July 31, 1999.

No-one at Barcelona was available for comment.

Speculation over the future of current coach Louis van Gaal has been rife since the club were knocked out of the European Cup in the Champions' League stage for the second successive season.

With Barcelona's domestic form also patchy, two successive defeats have seen them slip to fifth place in the Spanish first division - van Gaal has come under heavy criticism from the Catalan press and public. The Dutch coach has maintained that he will not resign, insisting that the time to judge his success or failure will be at the end of the season.

Van Gaal came through a similar ordeal last season after the side finished bottom of the Champions' League group but then went on to lift the Spanish league and cup double.

But Real Madrid's European Cup success last season put further pressure on van Gaal to bring success in Europe this term. With progress in the European Cup now out of the question for another year, Barcelona are almost certain to turn to a new coach next season.

Capello is held in high regard in Spain for winning the league title with Real Madrid in 1996, when Barcelona - then coached by Bobby Robson - were led by star striker Ronaldo.

Robson's failure to land the title that year led to him being replaced by van Gaal, who joined Barcelona at the start of the 1997-98 season.

## Bad luck for Tendulkar

HAMILTON, New Zealand, Jan 3: A controversial leg before decision against an ominous Sachin Tendulkar undermined a spirited Indian fight back on the second day of the third cricket Test Sunday, reports AP.

After medium pacesman Javagal Srinath had taken five for 95 to dismiss the home side for 366, New Zealand held India to 196 for five at stumps.

From 126 for two India lost their way as Saurav Ganguly and skipper Mohammed Azharuddin fell to injudicious shots outside off stump.

But Rahul Dravid moved towards a third Test century with an unbeaten 93 and Nayan Mongia was yet to score at stumps.

Indian coach Aunsman Gaekwad said his batsmen will have to score quickly and post a substantial lead to have any hopes of squaring the series. India trail the three-match series 1-0 following their four-wicket defeat in the second Test in Wellington.

"We have to get the runs on the board quickly," Gaekwad said. "It is a very good pitch and the only way we can win from here is by getting our nose in front and then applying the pressure."

Gaekwad was critical of the batting when he said it was "disappointing."

"Our batsmen got good starts but didn't apply themselves enough to get big scores," he said. "It is a type of surface that needs a fair amount of discipline. The New Zealand batsmen showed that when they batted."

Tendulkar, who followed up his innings of 47 and 113 in the second Test with a breezy 67 off just 93 balls, was adjudged lbw by New Zealand umpire Doug Cowie.

Cowie, who had turned down numerous appeals in the New Zealand innings, had rejected a confident shout for lbw off the previous ball.

Television replays clearly showed the ball which dismissed Tendulkar, a full length delivery from medium pacesman Dion Nash, was drifting down leg side.

Nash and his fellow bowlers were at the receiving end as the batting brilliance of Tendulkar and Dravid dominated the afternoon session after New Zealand had been dismissed 11 minutes after lunch.

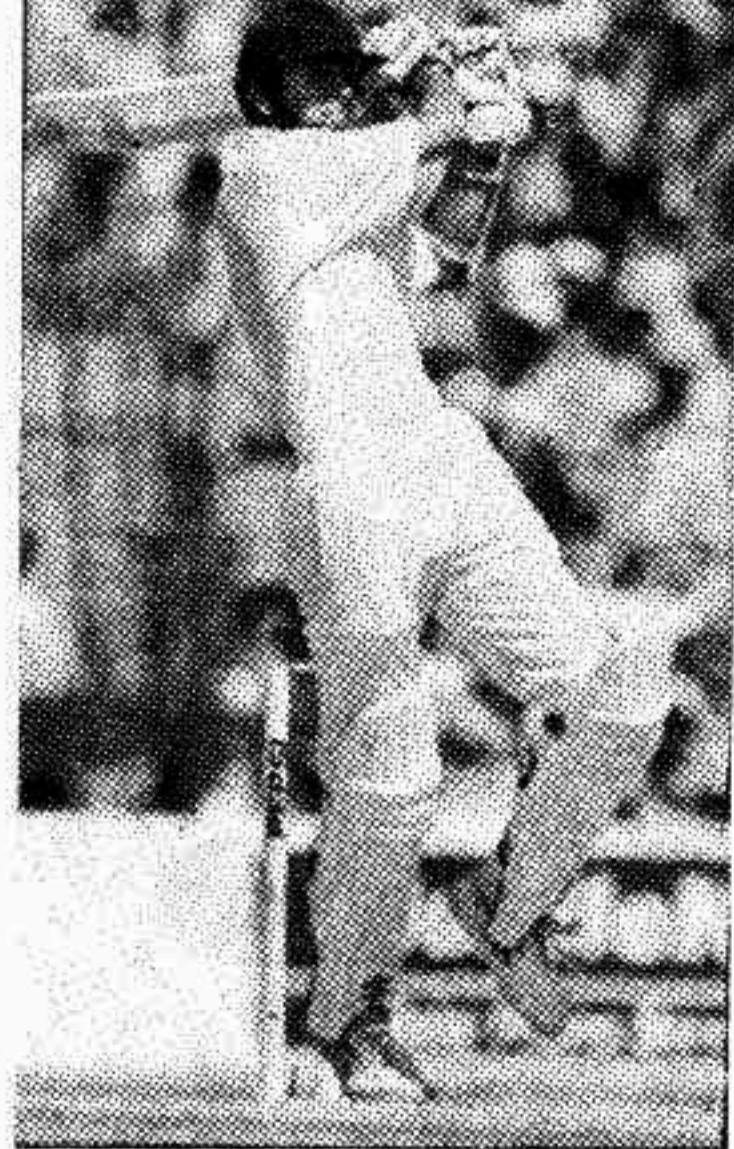
After India had lost openers Navjot Sidhu (1) and Ajay Jadeja (12) in the space of seven balls, the third wicket pair hit 19 boundaries between them and a six to Tendulkar as they raced to 109 in two hours before Nash checked India's progress.

Tendulkar's 20th half century in his 64th Test threatened

to overshadow a remarkable batting recovery by New Zealand after they had been sent in.

The right-handed Dravid refused to be overshadowed by Tendulkar's presence and matched the former captain's aggression cutting and driving for most of his 19 boundaries.

Simon Doull, the chief destroyer in the second Test with



DRIVID ... 93 n o

a nine-wicket haul, removed Ganguly (11) with a well disguised slow ball which was duly edged to first slip Stephen Fleming.

In the penultimate over of the day, Azharuddin (4) drove loosely at Chris Cairns to give Fleming another catch.

It was Srinath's third five-wicket haul in his 35th Test and his first since claiming 5-104 against South Africa at the Wanderers in January 1997.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of second day's play of the third and final Test between New Zealand and India in Hamilton on Sunday.

**NEW ZEALAND:** First innings

Bell c Mongia b Srinath	0
Horne b Srinath	63
Fleming c Dravid b Srinath	0
Twose c Mongia b Prasad	87
McMillan c Prasad b Kumble	92
Parore c sub b Prasad	21
Wiseman c Ganguly b Robin	13
Cairns b Robin	2
Nash not out	18
Vettori b Srinath	24
Doull c Kumble b Srinath	40
Extras: (b-5; lb-19; w-2; nb-14)	36
Total: (All out in 121.2 overs)	366

Fall of wkts: 1-0; 2-0; 3-95; 4-255; 5-278; 6-311; 7-314; 8-315; 9-356.

**Bowler**

	O	M	R	W
Srinath	32.2	10	95	5
Prasad	33	10	61	2
Kumble	27	7	64	1
Robin Singh	21	5	74	2
Ganguly	5	3	25	0
Tendulkar	3	0	23	0

**INDIA:** First innings

Sidhu c Parore b Cairns	1
Jadeja c Nash b Doull	12
Dravid not out	93
Tendulkar lbw b Nash	67
Ganguly c Fleming b Doull	11
Azharuddin c Fleming b Cairns	4
Extras: (b-1; lb-1; w-4; nb-2)	8
Total: (For five wickets in 56 overs)	196

Fall of wkts: 1-17; 2-17; 3-42; 4-164; 5-195.

**Bowler**

	O	M	R	W
Doull	15	6	29	2
Cairns	10	3	54	2
Nash	16	6	35	1
Vettori	13	2	63	0
McMillan	2	0	13	0

## Can't England play spin?

SYDNEY, Jan 3 (Reuters/Internet): Shane Warne made a successful comeback to international cricket on Sunday and declared that England's batsmen still cannot play spin bowling.

Warne trapped England opener Mark Butcher leg before wicket in his first over and was unlucky not to snare more victims in his return after a nine-month absence because of shoulder surgery.

Warne, who has tormented England's bowlers over the past five years with 88 wickets in 18 Ashes Tests, was hastily recalled after England beat Australia by 12 runs to go into the Sydney Test trailing 2-1.

England claimed before the start of this series that they had finally learned to play spin, but Warne begged to differ after his first inspection of the tourists.

"You can generally tell with a batsman when you bowl one and they're still on the front foot and just block it rather than rocking back and trying to cut it," he said.

"That's because they're not sure. That's the nature of the English batsmen."

It's either block or try and swing and hit them, there's no real in between of pick the gap for a single or work the ball and that's probably why they get themselves into trouble."

Cricket's most recognisable figure wasted little time in announcing his comeback to the big time by taking a wicket in his first over.

His victim was opener Mark Butcher who was struck on the pad playing back to ball that deceived him by keeping straight.

England collapsed to be all out for 220 - 102 behind Australia's score of 322 - but Warne's figures of one for 67 from 20 overs was evidence enough that the world's premier slow bowler was back.

"I thought it was a good start, the ball came out of the hand really well," Warne said.

"But just because I only got one wicket doesn't mean the psychological edge has disappeared. There's still another innings to go."

Warne's comeback has been the source of much speculation in Australia, particularly since he was caught up in one of the sport's worst scandals after news broke that he and fellow

taken money from a bookmaker to provide pitch and weather information during a 1994 tour of Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

But Warne, who has revolutionised the modern game with his leg spinners, maintains he has nothing to hide and has promised to tell all at an inquiry into the matter.

It was no coincidence that he was chosen to make his comeback at the Sydney Cricket Ground, Australia's most spin-friendly pitch, as Warne made his Test debut on that ground seven years ago and also took his 300th Test wicket there at the start of 1998.

Even so, Warne was upstaged on his return by another leg-spinner, Stuart MacGill, who

took career-best figures of five for 57.

MacGill has played wonderfully well this season in Warne's absence and was kept in the side because of the SCG's reputation as a spinning wicket.

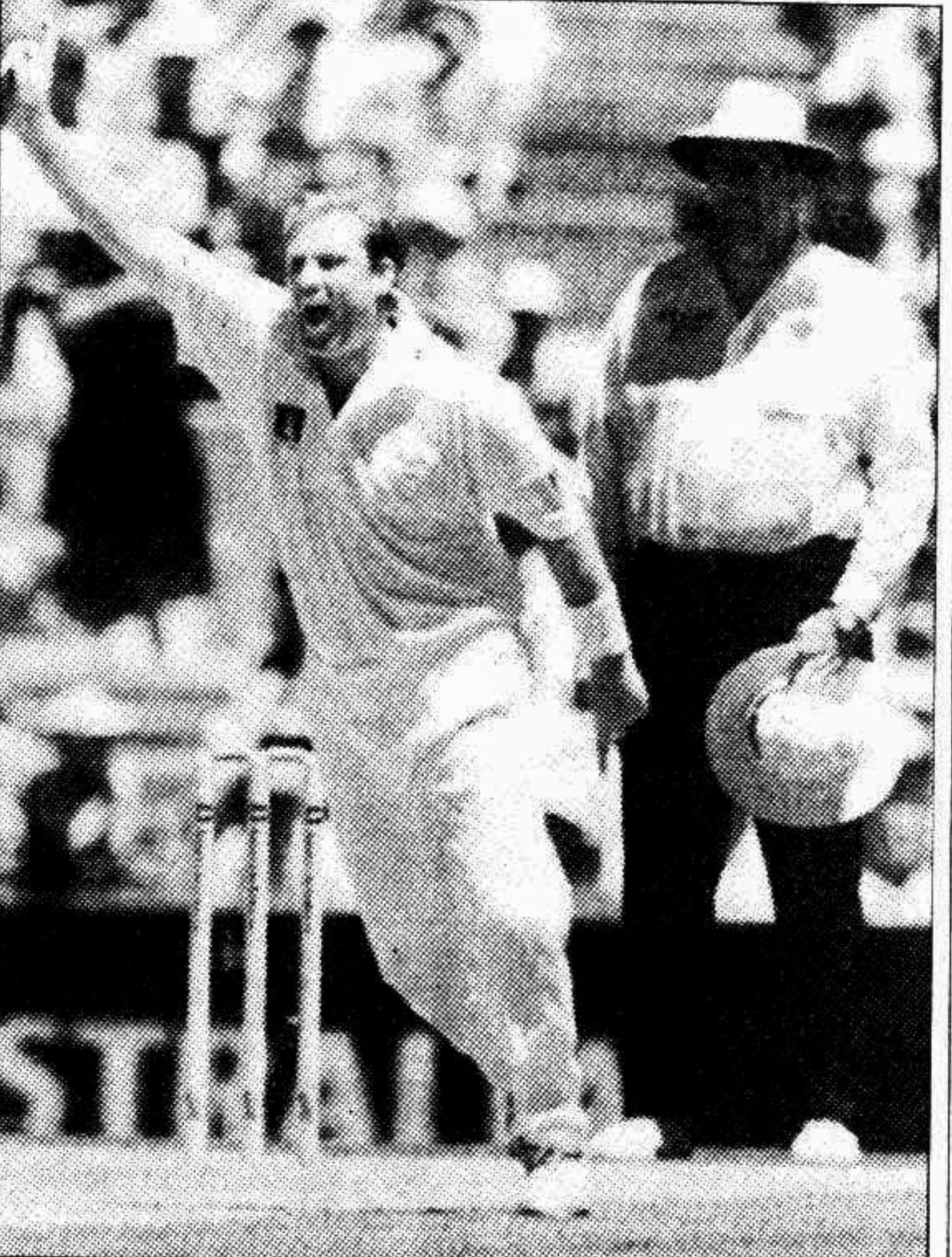
His performance did, however, raise the prickly question of who would play in future Tests when only one leg-spinner was required.

MacGill, who directs his bowling at off stump while Warne tends to aim outside leg stump, said he hoped Australia would keep them both in the team. "It was good bowling with Warne when I felt comfortable with myself and really felt like I belonged in Test cricket," MacGill said.



SHANE STRIKES: After many months of waiting mercurial Australian leg-spinner Shane Keith Warne finally got his reward, a wicket.

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## Keegan returns to big time

LONDON, Jan 3 (Reuters/Internet): Kevin Keegan returned to soccer's big time on Saturday and within a few minutes of eliminating his old club Southampton from the English FA Cup on their own ground.

The former Newcastle United manager and England international, now Fulham manager, saw his team from the third flight lead the premier league side before Norwegian Egil Ostensetd scrambled a late equaliser for a 1-1 draw.

Keegan was given a warm welcome by the Southampton fans before the third round game and was sporting enough to personally congratulate Ostensetd afterwards despite the fact that the Norwegian was very lucky to score.

Second division Fulham had played well in the early stages but had to survive a period of intense pressure in the second half when Southampton came at them despite being reduced to 10 men after Ken Monkou was sent off in the 70th minute.

"It was a farcical goal. But over the 93 minutes a draw was

a fair result," Keegan said. "Did they outclass us? The answer is no."

Asked about the chat with Ostensetd, he replied: "You should never lose your sense of humour. We were under a lot of pressure in the last half an hour and it is good to laugh about it."

"It was a good cup tie and in the first half an hour we played like we had a man spare."

Keegan, twice European player of the year, is used to playing and managing at the top level after his success as a player with clubs like Liverpool, Hamburg and his coaching days at Newcastle in the 1990s.

When he returned to England from the Bundesliga in 1980, he was a popular figure at Southampton where he helped the south coast team pull off a few surprises.

The 47-year-old manager was soon talking about those days after the tie and reminded his disappointed team what they had achieved in a draw against Southampton even though the club is flourishing.

"I had two great years down here. Some people still remember the (Mick) Channon, (Alan) Ball and Keegan era," he said. "We turned over some good sides down here."

The goal was fortuitous. But credit to them. They are a team struggling in the premiership but showed a lot of character."

As a manager, Keegan was in charge of Newcastle from 1992 to 1997 before resigning after a period of intense pressure.



KEVIN KEEGAN

well. Southampton showed a lot of character. My disappointment was that we did not look

## Glenn McGrath's achievement

SYDNEY, Jan 3: Australian pace spearhead Glenn McGrath captured his 200th Test wicket in dismissing England skipper Alec Stewart early on the second day of the fifth Ashes Test here today, reports AFP.

McGrath got the breakthrough when Stewart edged head high to Shane Warne at third slip, who at first juggled the ball but caught it on the second attempt.

McGrath's 200th victim came in his 45th Test.

Stewart, who scored his first century against Australia in the fourth Melbourne Test last week, scored three and left his team at 18 for one after the first half-hour of play.

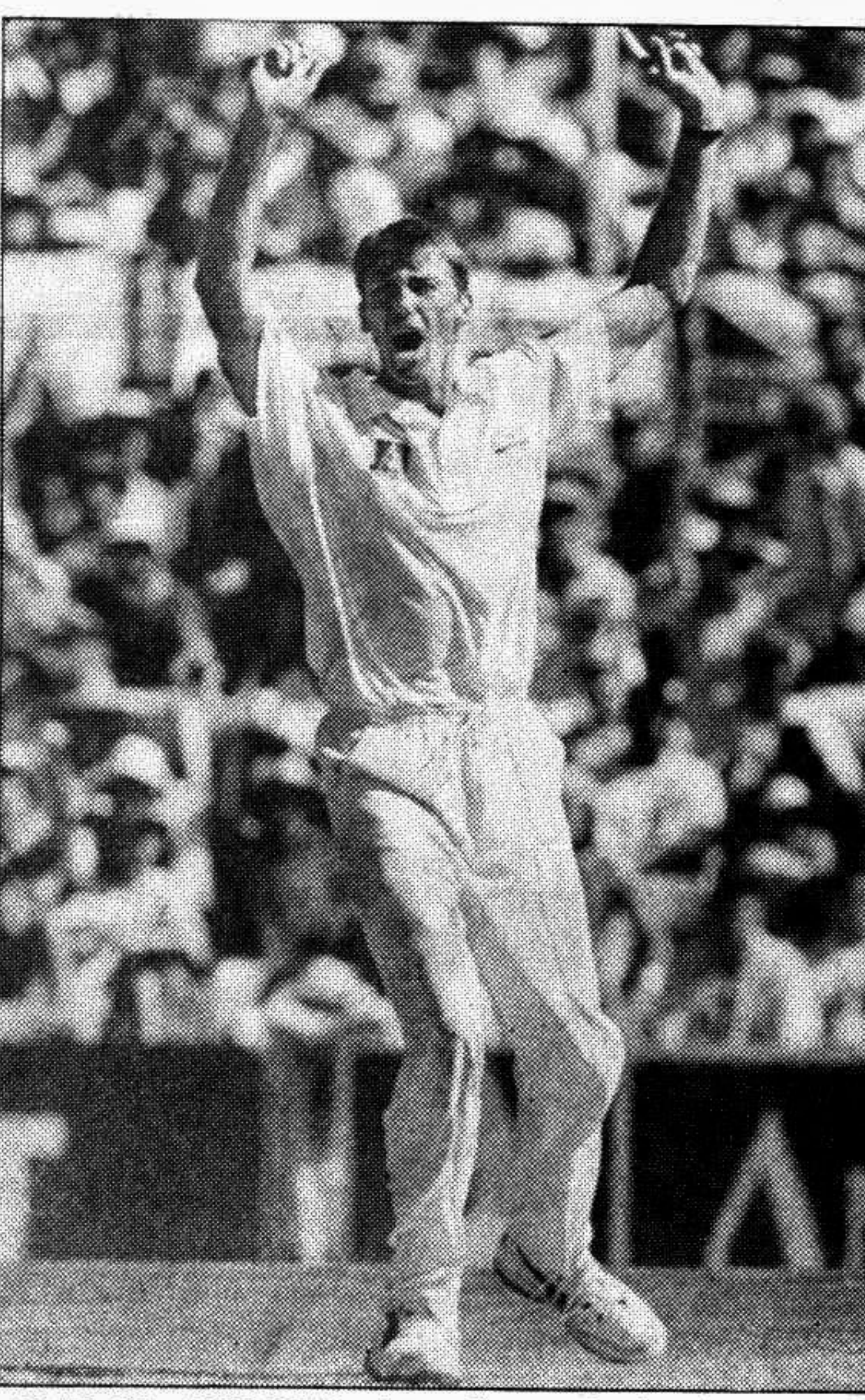
Australia, who lost their last five wickets for three runs as Darren Gough claimed England's first Ashes hat-trick this century, were dismissed for 322 late on Saturday.

Gough, who removed Ian Healy, Stuart MacGill and Colin Miller with successive deliveries, became the ninth Englishman to take a hat-trick in Tests and the last since teammate Dominic Cork against the West Indies in Manchester in 1995.

McGrath, playing in his 45th Test, was the 10th Australian to take 200 wickets and the fourth fastest to do so behind Clive Grimmett, Dennis Lillee and Shane Warne.

Overall he was 12th fastest in Test cricket and equal with West Indian Curtly Ambrose and Pakistan's Imran Khan.

McGrath grabbed his second wicket of the innings when he had Mark Ramprakash caught at mid-off by MacGill for 14.



ROAR OF APPROVAL: Australian strike bowler Glenn McGrath celebrates after claiming his 200th Test wicket that of England skipper Alec Stewart caught by Shane Warne for 3 on the second day of the fifth and final Test in Sydney.

## Baia speaks out

MADRID, Jan 3 (Reuters/Internet): Barcelona's Portuguese international goalkeeper Vitor Baia has spoken out at being continually ostracised by his coach Louis van Gaal.

"I've not committed any serious crime," said Baia, dropped from the first team squad and forced to train with another disgraced goalie since criticising management at the Spanish club on November 24.

After his outburst, Baia was immediately dropped as Barcelona's number two goalkeeper behind the Dutch incumbent Ruud Hesp. Spanish under-21 goalkeeper Francesc Arnau was called up from the reserves.

Baia has since been absent from the Barcelona first team squad, missing the last five Spanish league matches and also the last two games in Barcelona's

Champions' League matches. "I'm a person with a big heart and I believe in freedom of expression," Baia added.

He has been reduced to training with just Barcelona's other disgraced first team goalkeeper Carles Busquets for company.

He was the first choice under former coach Bobby Robson during the 1996-97 season but was the target of constant criticism by the Barcelona-based media and fans.

## Dundee enjoy key success

GLASGOW, Jan 3 (Reuters/Internet): Scotland striker Billy Dodds helped Dundee United to a crucial 3-1 away victory over city rivals and closest of neighbours Dundee on Saturday.

Steven Thompson and Kjell Olofsson added the other two goals to ease United's Scottish premier league relegation worries on a ground just 200 metres from their own.

United, who enjoyed heady success a decade ago when they reached the 1987 UEFA cup final, remained second from bottom but closed the gap on Dundee to one point.

United always looked like taking the honours in the 101st Dundee derby after Dodds' left foot shot on the turn in the 10th minute. It was their first triumph for three months.

Fourth-placed St Johnstone swept aside Aberdeen 4-1 at home.

Jamie Buchanan, son of former Manchester United and Scotland hero Martin Buchan, gave Aberdeen a 25th minute lead with a fine shot.

But Gary Bolland's 44th minute penalty brought St Johnstone level before Alan Kernaghan's volley and a pair of solo efforts from John O'Neil finished off the visitors.

Hearts' slump continued. They extended their win-less run to six games by drawing 0-0 at bottom club Dunfermline.

Rangers host champions Celtic on Sunday in the last premier league action before a four-week winter break.

CAPE TOWN, Jan 3 (AFP/Reuters): South Africa's cricketers were snubbed by Sports Minister Steve Tsamane on Saturday as they continued to dominate their series against the West Indian tourists.

Tsamane said he could not support the South African team. He criticised the selectors for failing to give opportunities to more black players after Hansie Cronje's team clinched the series in the third Test.

His comments came as the United Cricket Board (UCB) prepared to unveil a transformation charter today which will pledge to make the promotion of cricket among black Africans its top priority.

The document has been 18 months in the preparation but has been released at a time when the sport is under growing pressure to increase the number

of black players in the Test team.

In a "pledge to the nation" prefacing the charter, UCB president Ray White reaffirmed the board's "historic and moral duty to ensure that South African cricket grows and flourishes among the truly disadvantaged of our society, with the recognition that the majority of disadvantaged people come from our black communities."

The charter includes a ten-point plan to broaden the playing and support base of the game. It covers everything from the board's constitution to properly recording the century-old history of black cricket in the republic.

South Africa included two coloured players in Herschelle Gibbs and Paul Adams in their side for the fourth Test.

The charter makes no mention of quotas for black players but the board has already announced it is no longer appropriate for South Africa to field an all-white team.

But Tshwete told the Johannesburg Sunday Times newspaper that transformation in sport was not happening fast enough.

"I am worried that we will be sending white teams to the rugby and cricket World Cups in Britain this year. If that is the case it will be difficult for me to support them."

Tshwete said he was concerned about all South African sports. "At the Commonwealth Games in Malaysia last year you could have switched the labels on the South African and English teams if you judged them by the percentage of black athletes."

South African cricket boss Ali Bacher hit back at Tshwete.

"The board has enormous respect for Mr Tshwete, who played a crucial role in the unification of cricket. But we disagree on this issue," he said.

If we had picked a below-strength team for the Newlands Test it would have been demanding to our opponents from the West Indies and their supporters around the world, unfair to the commercial stakeholders in the game, and would have devalued the honour and privilege of representing South Africa in a Test match."

When will we unveil the charter during the tea break on the second day of the fourth Test today.

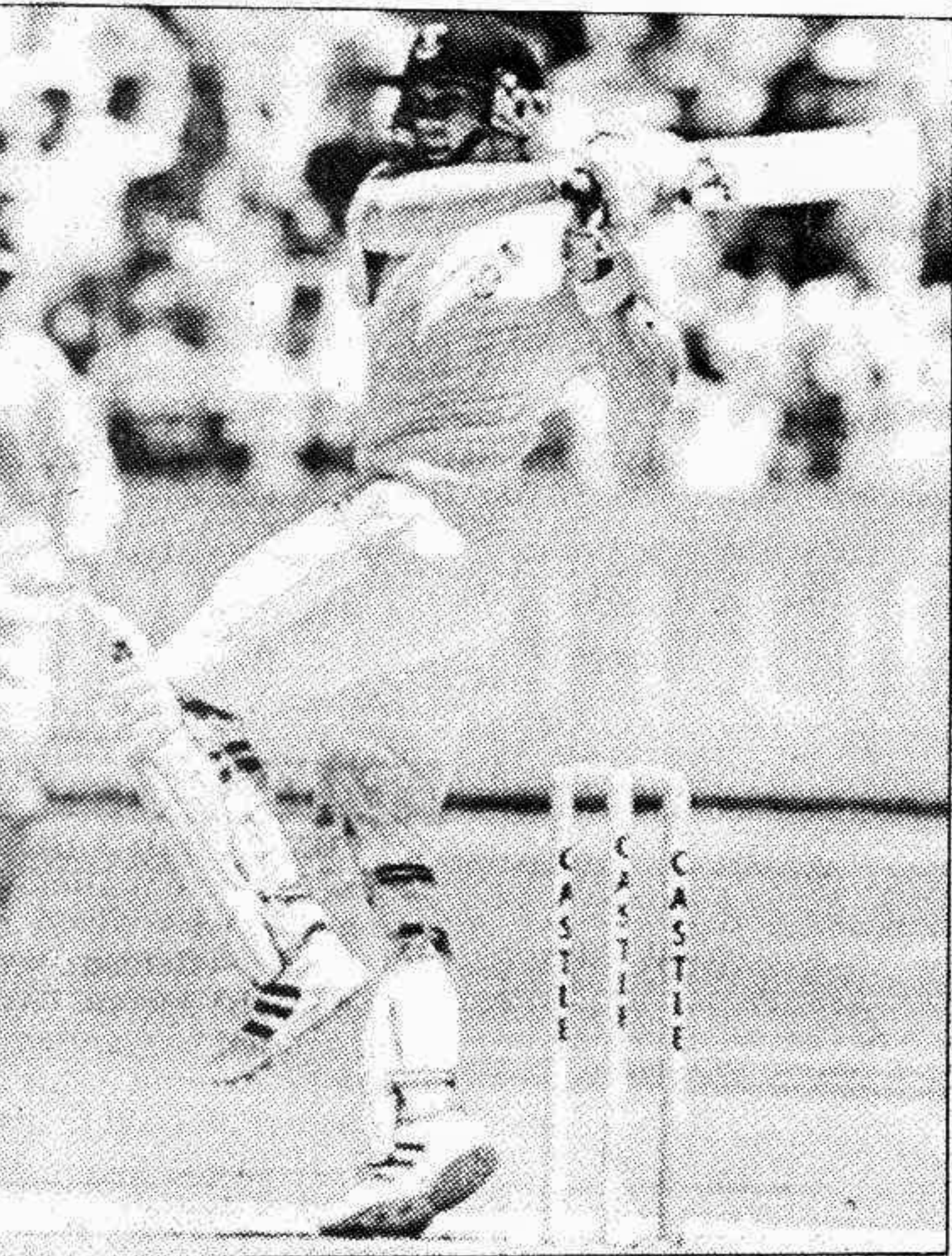
He will emphasise that the charter is the result of 15 months of internal soul-searching and dialogue, rather than a response to criticism by political figures such as Tshwete and Muleki George, chairman of the National Sports Council, the country's overriding sports controlling body.

White will pledge that the board, "Operating in a African context", recognises a historic and moral duty to serve the "truly disadvantaged", most of whom are black Africans.

Political criticism has dogged the South African team since an all-white side was picked for the first Test. South Africa won the first three matches of the five-Test series and hammered the tourists again Saturday, scoring 282 for two by the end of the first day.

Despite more criticism in the days leading up to the Test at Newlands, a capacity crowd of 22,000 watched Saturday's play. The gates were closed before lunch.

South Africa's Jacques Kallis pulls on way to 102 in Newlands, Cape Town on January 2. — AP/ UNB photo



South Africa's Jacques Kallis pulls on way to 102 in Newlands, Cape Town on January 2. — AP/ UNB photo

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Suitable
- Assessment
- Chinese gooseberry
- Bishop's territory
- Burn aid
- Saharan
- Distinguishing characteristic
- Basmati
- Polato buds
- Brett Butler
- Poultry purchase
- Despondent
- Carolina school
- I'll keep you in your place
- Listening device
- Brett Butler
- Untruth
- Klutzy skier's imprint
- Stratagem
- Grub
- Legal paperwork

**37 First Amer-** 51 Journey segment

**DOWN**

- Bat material
- Soup
- Shakespearean actor
- Edmund
- Trickster god
- Motorist's guidepost
- Help a hood
- "I'm — girl now"
- Causic solution
- Slam-dance, in a way
- Rainbow
- Kerosene lamp part
- Trumpet accessory
- Mid-March
- Lofting golf club
- Allure, for short
- Timber wolf
- Supplements
- Heal, as a fracture
- Felony
- Flight
- Dhabi
- Catcher's place?
- St. Bernard's burden

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

J A F K R D V K N : R V T U A T K  
W D L T V U R V D D K W R R  
S D H R R : H E S W G D L T J E  
K A A E N A A F A E G T J

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DURING MY OPERATION, THE COMICAL SURGEON SIMPLY HAD ME IN STITCHES.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: S equals C

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.