BRISBANE, July 12: Wimbledon runner-up Pat Rafter arrived back in Australia yesterday saying his rushed preparation for Friday's Davis Cup semifinal against Brazil was a

mixed blessing, reports Reuters. Rafter spoke to reporters at Brisbane airport after flying in just before midnight, anxious to get some rest before his firstround singles clash with French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten on the makeshift grass courts at ANZ Stadium.

"I don't think I've ever gotten in this late before for a Davis Cup," he said.

"I've always prepared really well for it but at the same time I've had a lot of matches and I'm taking a bit of confidence in so that probably is the saving grace and hopefully it will work in our favour.

Rafter missed Australia's Davis Cup final win over France in Nice in December because of a shoulder injury.

Wimbledon quarterfinalist Mark Philippoussis was Australia's hero on that occasion. but has become its villain. withdrawing shortly before the semifinal because of inflammation of his left knee.

At his post-Wimbledon final news conference. Rafter accused Philippoussis of "jerking us around.

Rafter said he did not want to comment further on his recent criticism of Philippoussis. "Everything that I have said about Mark has been said and

I'd like to sort of leave it that way now and hopefully we can sort out something after this Davis Cup because it would be nice to settle it all down," Rafter

The dual US Open champion said he was abandoning plans for a few days off after a tough two weeks at Wimbledon because of his desire to take part in his country's Davis Cup de-

Rusedski breaks up with coach

LONDON, July 12: Greg Rusedski, whose first-round loss at Wimbledon marked the latest setback in his slumping | throwing by two Indian umcareer, has parted with Dutch coach Sven Groeneveld, reports

Groeneveld has coached the Canadian-born British player for two years, but the two dewas beaten by American Vince | eries panel. Spadea, who had lost a record 21 straight matches until then.

feel that the time is right to move on," Rusedski said in a written statement Wednesday. "This is a mutual decision and we shall remain the best of friends."

"I am quite confident with Greg's potential game, that he will be able to play the kind of tennis that has consistently kept Greg among the world's best," Groeneveld said.

Groeneveld took over as split with Tony Pickard, who had replaced Brian Teacher.

I'm not From page 13

has reported to have added and claims he is working hard to lose it again.

"I've put on a bit of weight, he said. "I accept that, but nowhere near a stone like some have claimed, more like a cou-

ple of kilos. "I had realised that before all this blew up and I have been trying hard to get it off. Last winter I worked hard to keep in shape and I think I succeeded and I haven't been doing anything different this summer — I know it's important to watch what I eat and drink."

The biggest concern to Flintoff at present, however, is his long-standing back problem, which has threatened his England career in the future and his participation in Thursday's day-night international against Zimbabwe at Old Traf-

"My back is a real concern. he admitted. "On Saturday I felt fine, but on Sunday morning when I woke up I was stiff and sore and I couldn't guarantee bowling my 10 overs. "I don't know what causes it

to go like that. Obviously it's a worry, no-one worries about it more than me because it is affecting my career.

'Hopefully I'll be okay to play on Thursday, but if the back trouble is not sorted out, I accept I will find it hard to keep my place.

I want to do well for England and I will do everything ! can to prove the critics wrong."

Zimbabwe going

From page 13

WEST INDIES Gayle c Streak b Johnson Campbell c G Flower b Johnson Hinds c and b B Strang Lara b Streak Adams run out Powell b Viljoen Jacobs Ibw b G Flower Rose Ibw b P Strang

McLean not out Dillon not out Extras: (lb-4; w-15) Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-18, 3-23, 4-40, 5-40, 6-57, 7-103, 8-

Did not bat: Corey Collymore Bowler

Johnson 2 career on loan to Swiss club FC 0 16 B Strang Basel, but hopes to break into of defending Olympic champi-Streak 23 0 Viljoen 23 I two years. P Strang 58 0 G Flower 18 Result: Zimbabwe won by 70



The function was organised to mark the launching of American Online (AOL) Mexico -AFP photo

Scientist pulls for Lee

hanics expert said here Wednesday, reports AFP

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is to review the 23-year-old tearaway bowler's action after he was reported for pires during the Test series against New Zealand in March

and April. The Australian Cricket Board will call on a biomechanics expert to try to prove Lee's cided to split after the humiliat- innocence when his case is ing Wimbledon defeat. Rusedski | heard by the ICC's illegal deliv-

Bruce Mason, manager of the biomechanics department at "We have achieved some ex- the Canberra-based Australian cellent results together but both | Institute of Sport, said all bowlers would be under suspicion if their actions were examined closely enough.

"In raising Brett Lee's defence a biomechanical analysis needs to be done," Mason said, adding the naked eye or even slow motion relays didn't clarify the situation.

Mason said modern technology would show up many the arm is unworkable.

liveries they have an illegal action - every bowler is going to is more a political problem do that to some degree.

"If you had good quality. problem," Mason said. high-speed film, you could disbowlers."

Asked if he had seen many been raised. bowlers he would describe as "perfect". Mason said: "Generally you see faults in everyone."

Mason said most fast he's a threat bowlers got into trouble when than their normal delivery.

In Lee's case, the two umpires - Arani Jayaprakash and



freedom of movement, saving a ruling that allows no bending of

"I could pull out a whole raft tion, Mason believed allegasome stage of some of their de- more on politics than science.

qualify a whole lot of fast been so successful in his career to date is why questions have

subconscious thing there. umpires who raised it said: them something is wrong and they're interpreting it as a bent But Mason said umpires "were no more skilled than

'Why is he bowling so fast? He

"They're not really seeing a

bent elbow, they're seeing an

image in their brain that tells

anyone else" at making a judgement on an illegal deliv-"With high-speed camera it

takes about four or five hours of looking at a bowler's action and evaluating it before we can decide he's throwing it." Meanwhile, there was unexpected support for Lee Wednes-

day from Pakistan cricket manager Brigadier Mohammed Nasir, who only recently was forced to defend the action of Pakistani quick Shoaib Akhtar, said the inquiry would not mean the end of Lee's international career. HICH Have vel to host

"In my personal opinion found nothing wrong with him," Nasir told ABC radio

This is one of those things where if the umpires have raised some doubts or suspicion . I'm sure if, at all, some remedial measures are required, it will be done and Brett Lee will be there for a long, long time to come."

And Australia's Cricketers' the handling of the chucking al legations were totally unsatisfactory.

May complained about the four-month delay in telling Australia of the reports, and

called for an overhaul of the He said the pressure on play-

"I don't think the Indian quired they be dealt with as soon as possible.

Sampras doubtful

NEW YORK, July 12: Pete Sampras, who has won more Grand Slam events than any other man, said here yesterday he was unlikely to represent the United States in this month's Davis Cup semifinal round against Spain, reports AFP.

Sampras has tendinitis in his left leg and wants to talk with Davis Cup captain John McEnroe before a final decision is made last night.

reports AFP.

forde in Saturday's third rub-

ber, but said Australia faced a

tough battle against French

Open champion Gustavo

their first-ever Davis Cup final.

The winners play either Spain

or the United States in the fi-

Brazil are bidding to reach

"If you go onto the court

"I don't think we're stupid

and we don't intend to lose, but

we've got a very big battle on our

hands, even though the condi-

tions are our home conditions."

practised for the first time

Wednesday after rushing back

The weary Australian team

thinking that's not a threat,

you're stupid and you'll lose."

Newcombe said Wednesday.

Kuerten and Jaime Oncins.

He said it was unlikely he would make the trip to Santander, a northern coastal town in Spain, where golfer Seve Ballesteros once lived and King Juan Carlos has a summer home. The semifinal will be played on clay July 21-23.

The winner will advance to meet either defending champion Australia or Brazil in the December final.

Davis Cup spokesman Randy Walker said the semifinal team would be announced by McEnroe today.

Sampras, 28, won his seventh Wimbledon singles title when he beat Aussie Patrick Rafter on Sunday in four sets to take his grand slam tally to a record 13, passing Australia's Roy Emerson.

When he competed at Wimbledon, Sampras was examined by a doctor who advised him to of Wednesday. rest for about two weeks.

had several injuries that have stopped him from playing in the Davis Cup, much to McEnroe's displeasure.

McEnroe, who is in his first year as the 37th US Davis Cup captain, has an overall record of 59-10 in Davis Cup matches, including 41-8 in singles.

The semifinal against Spain will be played in a 10,500-seat stadium on a surface upon which Sampras has not had success in a Grand Slam event. He has yet to win the French Open, which is played on clay.

But in Davis Cup matches, Sampras is 6-0 when playing on clay. Andre Agassi is 10-2 on clay in the Davis Cup. Agassi. Todd Martin and Jan-Michael Gambill are expected to make up the US team if Sampras withdraws.

The US team is 56-18 on clay. The first time the Americans played on clay was for a 5-O result against Mexico in Mexico City in 1928. The US team has won its past eight Davis Cup matches on clay. America's last loss on clay was 3-2 against Paraguay in Asuncion in 1987. The US team beat Spain 3-2

in Barcelona on clay when the two last met there in a semifinal in 1972.

Woodruff ends losing streak

NEWPORT, Rhode Island, July 12: Top seed and defending champion Chris Woodruff snapped a six match losing streak on Tuesday as he advanced to the second round of the 375,000 dollars Hall of Fame Tennis Championships, reports Reuters.

Woodruff had few problems in defeating fellow American Michael Russel in straight sets 6-1, 6-2. It was his first triumph since a second-round victory in mid-April at Atlanta.

Before the slump, Woodruff had reached his first career Grand Slam quarter-final at the Australian Open in January and two other events. Last year. Woodruff captured the championship by edging Kenneth Carlsen in three sets. Second seed Gianluca Pozzi

of Italy continued his fine play on grass this season as he moved into the second round with a 7-6 (7-4) 6-4 triumph over Anthony Dupuis of France. At other grass events this

season, Pozzi reached the semifinals at the Stella Artoits Championships, the quarterfinals at Nottingham and the fourth round at Wimbledon.

of Australia came back to defeat 1998 runner-up Neville Goodwin of South Africa 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (8-6). Goodwin defeated Stoltenberg in the semifinals here two years ago but had to go through qualifying this year to make the main draw.

In other first-round matches, Tuomas Ketola of Finland beat Justin Gimelstob of the United States 7-6 (7-4). 2-6 6-3 and American Bob Bryan defeated countryman qualifier Jim Thomas 7-5, 6-2.

A pair of qualifiers advanced when Scott Draper of Australia posted a 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 triumph over Spain's Oscar Burrieza and Mardy Fish of the United States took care of Cristiano Caratti of Italy 6-7 (2-7). 6-3, 6-4,

Peter Wessels of the Netherlands moved to the second round after Daniel Nestor of Canada retired heading into the third set with the match tied at a set apiece. The Netherlands' Jens Knippschild nipped Marcos Ondruska of South Africa 6-3, 6-7 (7-5), 6-2.

First prize is 49,500 dollars.

Neiland's fall from grace

stripped of the prize money she won at the 1999 Australian Open after testing positive for | 20 "Bloom caffeine, reports Reuters. Neiland, winner of six Grand

"But it is amazing that all of Slam doubles and mixed doubles titles, will forfeit the \$15,134 she received for reaching the doubles quarterfinals at the Australian Open with Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) said in its weekly news bulletin.

for the stimulant at the tour nament but the announcement of her punishment was delayed | 39 From until the appeals procedure had run its course.

John's cause for concern

BRISBANE, Aus- of Friday's tie. tralia, July 12: Newcombe refused to con- named." Woodforde said Captain John cede the Australian doubles Wednesday. 'combination was the team's hinted the pivotal doubles match could be Aus-

weekend's Davis Cup tennis semifinal against Brazil on year, having won 10 of 11 dou- as I am. grass at ANZ Stadium here. bles matches so far. Australia have split their doubles matches this year after an issue reality." Newcombe has yet to reveal last year losing two matches in who will partner Wimbledon five sets before lifting the Davis doubles champion Mark Wood-

Cup title against France in Nice last December. "I wouldn't call it a weak jury concerns. link," Newcombe said. "We've lost some and the one's we've lost have been pretty close.

"Kuerten and Oncins are a very good pair and they've got a great Davis Cup record?

"It's a key match for them and a key match for us and as I understand it they've been doing a lot of work on their doubles in the last four days. "In the first four years that

Tony (Roche) and I were in charge of the team we were winning all our doubles and not winning enough singles matches. "You'd hope to win the dou-

bles, but we've been winning the from London in the early hours thing."

Meanwhile, Woodforde day in Brisbane. Wimbledon singles finalist shrugged off his weariness and Sandon Stolle arrived just after combining with Sandon Stolle, midnight, while Woodforde despite suggestions Rafter touched down at 5am Wednes- would be called up to play the day just 48 hours from the start doubles.

"I'll be confident to play with Sandon as I've played two However, the Brazilian duo Grand Slam doubles finals tralia's undoing in this have dropped one set in wins against him in the past month over France and Slovakia this and I know he's playing as well

The Daily Star 15

"So what may look like a

dilemma on paper is not such The Brazilian team contin-

ued their preparations with

Kuerten appearing to practise

well despite Tuesday's groin in-The official draw will be

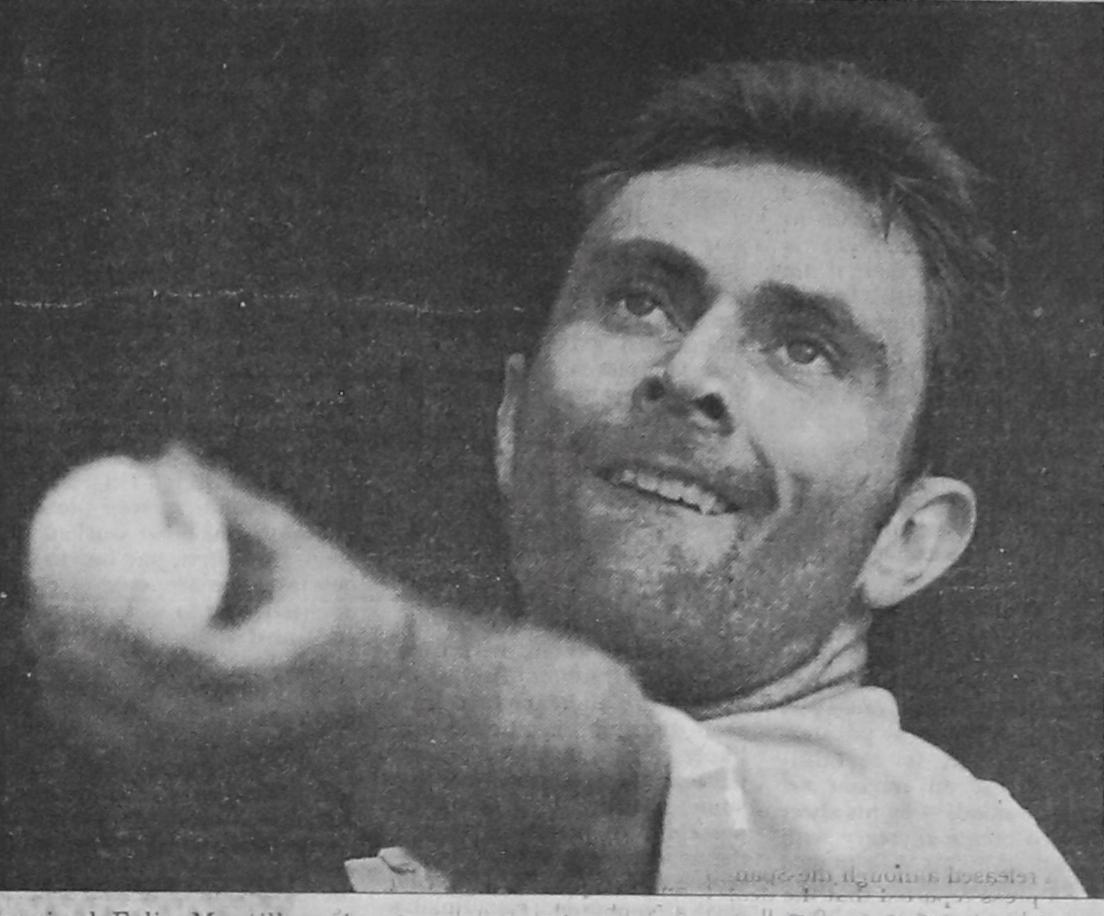
made here on Thursday. SCUD RETALIATES

Embattled Mark Philippoussis Wednesday said he was frustrated and upset at Pat Rafter's criticisms of his late withdrawal from the Davis Cup

Speaking here for the first time about the furore, Philippoussis accused teammate Rafter of being "hinformed about the issue.

Philippoussis came under fire from Rafter at the weekend after saying he wanted to rest an inflamed knee rather than matches and that's the key play in the semifinal against the Brazilians, starting on Fri-

"I think that Pat's been unin-Over the years, Sampras has Pat Rafter, Lleyton Hewitt and said he was looking forward to formed. He's had his shoulder problems and he hasn't played Davis Cup or he's played only doubles," Philippoussis said on television.



Spaniard Felix Mantilla going to serve against countryman Fernando Vicente during their first round match of the Swiss Open in Gstaad on July 11.

An unforgettable day ecutive of the British Lawn



July 12 (AP): More than just the players were black on "People's Monday" at Cen

The bastion of tennis has never seen so many non-white faces in one day, fallout from the "Venus and Serena Williams effect" as Wimbledon opened up Centre Court for 5 pounds (7.50 dollars) on Monday to the hoi polloi.

"Never been here in my life, said Mia Morris, 41, snuggled up high in Row S on a blustery Fifth seed Jason Stoltenberg day as the American sisters won the women's double title in a match put off from Sunday by Morris is black and British

but never had bothered with the 10-minute trip from her home to the All England Club. "What I like is these girls don't come over as sports brats. They haven't been pampered. Michele Williams, 25 and no

relation to the Americans, sat alongside. She's black and travelled two hours from the northern city of Birmingham to see the champions who promise Royal Box. to change the face of tennis

premises 47 Under-

16 It'll get

noggir

28 Massage

31 Nightwear

35 Drudgery

24 Takes

26 News

30 Yule

suturing

world

"It's something for a white, elite sport like this to have a black champion. Oh, look at that," she said, jumping up and applauding as the Americans paraded the doubles trophy across the world's most famous

Sandwiched between the two was Kim Weei, who called herself "Chinese-British" and a "peripheral tennis fan." "I couldn't miss seeing Venus." she said. "They suddenly came out of the blue as far as I was concerned

"They've brought tennis to the attention of others. It's been very much an elite game and this has brought it to all races." Tito and Lindia Carter sat 10 feet away in Row R.

"It's brilliant. It's a pity we can't got that kind of talent over here." Lindia said. They were black, too. "I've never been here, but I guess it is a little unusual to have so many black people around."

It's impossible to say how many non-whites were among about 12,000 at Centre Court on Monday. Maybe there were 1.000 and the only place they weren't clustered was in the John Crowther, the chief ex-

A British man hasn't won Wimbledon in 64 years: a British woman for 23. This year, British singles players were eliminated after a week.

Tennis Association, is talking

about bringing the Williams

family roadshow to Britain's

inner-city neighbourhoods.

using their exuberance and tal-

Serena Williams is all for it.

"That sounds really great, we

love it here," Serena said Mon-

day. The sisters won two Wim-

bledon titles this year - doubles

and Venus in singles — and be-

tween them they've won a

whopping nine Grand Slam ti-

Britain to get some minority

tennis players involved. We're

all up for the idea. It's a fantas-

"It would be really great in

ent to promote urban tennis.

What's the problem? Perhaps the weather, or perhaps the game's snobbish image and a facet in the English character that's suspicious of success.

"I don't think it would be allowed to happen here," said Michele Williams, leaving the famous stadium looking to "see where John McEnroe sits.

CROSSWORD		By Eugene Sheffer		
ACROSS 1 Insertion mark 6 Sir's counter-	40 Pronto 42 Result of non- paymont, for	DOWN 1 Topped cracker 2 Almost 100	13 Has a stench 18 Cistern 21 Palo yellow	
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32 Sanctify endar employee moving 49 Wolflike 9 King with oil 51 Hemo-Arthur's 33 Court globin final funnyman 19 Fabrica problem home 34 Monarch tion 52 Guide 10 Appor-(Abbr.) 36 Neighbor-53 Lock tionment County 54 More 11 Party penguin crafty souvenir 37 First 22 Awesome!" Solution time: 23 mins. 23 Hit on

POI DOC GATES CYRANO REEFER 48 Fr. title 50 Remun Yesterday's answer

season 38 Crew member 41 Executor's concern 44 Roast platform 45 Hamilton vs. Burr, 0.9.

eration

Turkish

31 Old

31 32 33 42 CRYPTOQUIP

ENHLBZ SBB HNCP LBZ

EUWO EYAGLYBTNFA GLYCPZBW,

"SBLYTB ONFZABCTBA!" Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I THINK THAT POP SINGERS ARE ALL PARTIAL TO ROCKING

CHAIRS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals T

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.

Whittall 0 him to miss the opening training camps for the Australian invited for the Sydney Olympic team, but he believes Olympics have declined, saying ter Germany won the bid to host Man-of-the-match: Guy he will be free to return to train- they had won gold medals in At-Whittall. ing camps in August.

SYDNEY, July 12: Srinivas Venkataraghavan - We're going to get him' but they If Australian Bre- specifically criticised Lee's "ef- may have asked themselves tt Lee is a chucker, fort ball". so are most other

Mason suggested a scientific must be doing something differ-Test fast bowlers. model should be drawn up ent, something illegal'. which allows all bowlers some

While Lee was open to ques-

"I think the fact Brett Lee's

knocking over wickets because he's bowling with a lot of speed,

"The situation with Brett Lee

they tried to extract more effort say things out loud, there's a

"If you've got someone

than a sport or biomechanics

Rusedski's coach after his bitter of bowlers and show you that at tions of chucking were based

"While people don't want to ICC's review process.

Association boss Tim May said

ers from such allegations re-

Olympic football tournament

SA make a promise JOHANNESBURG, July 12: restricted to under-23 squads. ers into the squad because they

Aussie hot shot joins Juve PERTH. Australia, July 12 Australian teenage star Ivan

September, officials confirmed

quadrennial competition are

Qualifying rounds for the

Monday, reports AFP.

deal with Italian Serie A giants Juventus for 1.6 million dollars (950.000 US), reports AFP. The Perth Glory midfielder has spent the last two weeks in

He returned to Perth to in-

Italy as a guest of the club.

Ergic has signed a four-year

Ergic had been considering Glory's German coach Bernd Stange's advice to play another season in Australia's national 6 Soccer League before heading to 2 Europe, but the lure of playing 9 for Juventus proved too great. "It's a dream come true, they

10 are probably the best club in the

14 | world so I couldn't say no." Er-

form the Glory of his decision.

37 gic said Monday. "It is the dream of millions Philippe Troussier, the Frenchof young soccer players to play 6 alongside champions such as 19 | Zinedine Zidane

Ergic confirmed he had knocked back several more lu- eral players with senior nacrative offers to sign with Ju- tional team experience, includventus, including one from ing defender Aaron Mokoena, Stange's former German club midfielder Quinton Fortune Ergic will start his European and Siyabonga Nomvete.

I Basel begin next week forcing from Lagos.

South Africa will not use "over- but the 16 finalists can field will not be totally committed, age" players in the Olympic three senior players, reports Bonfrere said. Games football tournament in AFP

boys who did such an excellent job during the qualifying rounds," coach and former national star Ephraim 'Shakes' Mashaba said. Although Mashaba never

publicly voiced his views on an

issue that sparked heated de-

bate, he favoured retaining the

under-23 squad despite the

temptation to call up stars like Leeds United and national team captain Lucas Radebe. The decision will be a relief to Leeds manager David O'Leary, who has been involved in several club-versus-country

clashes with the South African

football authorities. Had central defender Radebe been selected, he would have missed at least four weeks of English Premiership action as the youthful Leeds side attempt burg-based Sunday Times reto improve on a third-place finish last season. South Africa have been

drawn with 1996 bronze

medalists Brazil, Slovakia and

Japan, who are guided by

born former coach of South Africa. Mashaba can still select sev- not only rotation of the World and strikers Benni McCarthy

the Juventus top side in the next ons Nigeria, wants to use overage players, but cannot find any His commitments with FC volunteers, according to reports "All the over-age players I the 2006 World Cup, beating

lanta. I don't want to force play-

Jo Bonfrere, the Dutch coach

Defender Uche Ukechukwu "This is an honour for the midfielder Emmanuel Amunike and striker Daniel Amokachi were the senior players in the team that defeated Argentina 3. 2 in the 1996 final.

Rotation idea doesn't please SA

JOHANNESBURG, July 12: South African World Cup bid boss Danny Jordaan has scoffed at a suggestion by European football governing body (UEFA) president Lennart Johansson that the cup hosts should be appointed on a system of rotation, the Johannes-

"Why all of a sudden are they making this announcement now, when they have not even discussed the matter properly." he told the newspaper. "Other than (continental) ro-

tation, they have need to sort

out other matters as well - it is

Cup finals that worries us."

ported, reports AFP.

a sudden they have become sensitive in their attitudes and want to change now. UEFA president Johansson said on Friday he supported a system of continental rotation for the World Cup and Indicated he would back an African nation to stage the 2010 tourna-

He was speaking the day af-

South Africa by one vote.

LONDON, July 12: Latvia's | 17 At no Larisa Neiland has been

Neiland, 33, tested positive