'Keepers as apt

as anyone' CANBERRA, Dec 6: The demands of wicketkeeping should not preclude those behind the stumps from being considered as Test skippers. Australian

vice-captain Adam Gilchrist

said Wednesday, reports AFP. The outstanding wicketkeeper-batsman is to lead the Prime Minister's XI against the West Indies here Thursday. although he will not don the gloves for the game.

However, as the man expected to take over from the injured Steve Waugh as standin Australia captain for the third Adelaide Test starting on December 15, he said the busy task ahead of him was one a wicketkeeper could handle.

"I'm sure it's possible," he said. "It's a big task for anyone to captain the Test team. It's a terrific job and there's a terrific amount of responsibility to go

"Keepers traditionally haven't been tried. I'd like to think that whether you're a keeper or a bowler or batsman or an allrounder, vou're never going to be pigeon-holed because of past

"I just think that if people think you're the right man for the job. give you a go and see what happens."

Gilchrist said he did not see the PM match as a captaincy trial for the third Test.

Tve been asked to captain the team in this one-off game so I'll go out and enjoy it and gain a bit from the experience." he

"This was selected long before Steve Waugh was injured. "I'm looking forward to it as a great opportunity to learn about captaincy and have a bit of fun." he added.

Gilchrist, who will captain a side largely untried on the international scene, said his players were in form.

"We've got a form side — a lot of wickets amongst the bowlers and runs amongst the balsmen.

"For Australian cricket": sake we'll be trying to win to make sure we keep them down and us up."

The West Indies players did not have an official practice session Wednesday, having arrived early morning after an overnight flight from Perth.

The tourists are not expected to name a team until the morning of the match.

to hand South Africa the three- regular member of the Test Prime Minister John Howard is to officially open the new Sir Donald Bradman Stand at the rest of the South African team in Bloemfontein. ground during lunch. in Johannesburg ahead of the

RU cricket

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI. Dec 6: Statistics beat Physics by 81 runs in the Rajshahi University interdepartment cricket tourhament | to blood Ngam. rather than in phen Fleming admitted after get full stadiums." he said. at RU stadium today

invited Statistics to bat. Statistics scored 139 for 8 in the stipulated 25 overs.

Winning the toss. Physics

In reply. Physics were bowled out for 58 in 23.4 overs. In the other match. Pharmacy received walkover against Anthropology

From glory

From page 13 13 of which are at home. 1990. Wins first Test as captam, against Sri Lanka in Chandigarh, in November,

1992: Captains first team to South Africa after end of apartheid. losing series 1-0 after drawing three of the four Tests. 1993: Leads India to a 3-0 sweep of Graham Gooch's England side in India, scoring 182

in the first Test. 1996: Leads India to semifinals of World Cup against Sri Lanka in Calcutta on March 13 but crowd trouble sees the game abandoned and Sri Lanka

declared the winners. 1996: Loses captaincy to Sachin Tendulkar in August. 1997: Dropped from Indian squad for first time in career. 1998: Re-appointed skipper of team in March after selectors

on his batting. 1998: Becomes first player to play 300 one-day internationals, on October 29, in a match against Australia at

leave Tendulkar to concentrate

Dhaka. 1999: First player to score 9.000 runs in one day internationals, against England in

Birmingham, on May 29. 1999: Has shoulder surgery medalist here Wednesday, reafter disappointing World Cup and is then sacked as skipper, again replaced by Tendulkar. 1999: Dropped from team pics in 1948 and at Helsinki in

for domestic series against New Zealand and tour of Australia. 2000: Recalled to Indian side after strong domestic sea-

2000: Plays last Test, his

99 against South Africa on March 2 at Bangalore, scoring 102 in the second innings. 2000: Plays last one-day international on June 3. an

Asian Cup match against Pakistan at Dhaka, scoring just one 2000: Named on June 15 by

former South African captain Hansie Cronje during the King inquiry into match-fixing as the man who introduced him to bookmaker M K Gupta.

2000: Named on November 1 as one of five Indian players in a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry into match

2000: Gives a 12-page statement on November 23 to the Indian Board of Control (BCCI) investigator denving any involvement in match fixing.

2000: BCCI disciplinary hearing on November 29 2000: Banned for life by BCCI on December 4

'Lara should start anew'



Wednesday, reports AFP. presence of his girlfriend hopefully come good again. should stop because it was nobody else's business, the

former Caribbean great said. Richards is here to watch the tourists take on a Prime Minister's XI in a one-day game Thursday.

He would not say whether Lara, who has scored 21 runs in four Test innings so far this summer but is not playing Thursday, should use the game to get some time in the middle.

"He's certainly a little bit short of runs and I'm quite certain he'll be looking at all the lavourite means of trying to find form for the next (Test) match." Richards said.

Lara's atrocious form in Australia has seen him drop out of the world's top 10 batsmen for the first time since

He has plunged from first to 12th in the past six months. dropping two rungs down the ladder in the past week alone

townships, is set

mestic day-night game for pace," he said.

derers Stadium here Friday, said

He was picked on standby

Zealand lost by seven wickets

him off the field last weekend.

Test against New Zealand

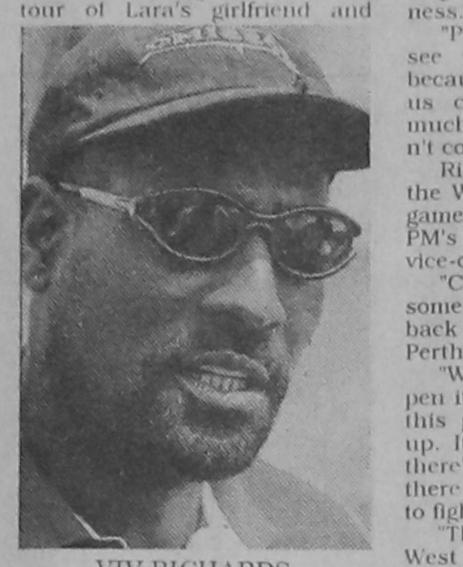
beth last weekend, which New Africa

Magiet said he thought the final August.

CANBERRA. Dec after a succession of failures. Brian Lara needs Lara's current slump: "You're cricket. going to have your little ups

es skipper Viv Richards said back. I believe in dusting yourself off. There's nothing wrong vidual," he said. And speculation that his with that if you're knocked form was being affected by the down. 'Dust vourself off and management and everyone

Richards bristled at questions about the presence on the



VIV RICHARDS

going to take him apart the way

a (Sri Lankan captain) Sanath

to make his Test debut in the Jayasuriya might. The pitch at the first two Tests and being

Zealand starting at the Wan- good one for fast bowlers," he like to finish on a high note."

Fellow selector Hylton Ack-

If Ngam plays, he will join

Ntini. 23, has become a

team and took six for 66 in the

Donald will report with the second innings of the first Test fidence. "The Wanderers is a

With South Africa having

Selection convenor Rushdi tournament in Singapore in attendances at the first two

Injuries have taken their toll

would be an ideal opportunity and New Zealand captain Ste- cricket and it would be nice to

RG. Dec 6: Mfu- which starts later this month.

third and final Test against New the Wanderers in normally a

Ngam, 21, recorded the fast- erman said Ngam had the po-

est delivery in South African tential to be South Africa's first

cricket this summer, being black superstar. "He is genu-

timed at 150 kilometres (90 inely quick and impressed peo-

miles) an hour during a do- ple in the West Indies with his

for Allan Donald, who suffered Makhaya Ntini on the first oc-

a stomach muscle injury during casion that two black Africans

the second Test in Port Eliza- have played together for South

final Test but physiotherapist won the first two Tests. New

Craig Smith said he would only Zealand will be trying to avoid a

be passed fit if there was no whitewash at the end of a long

sign of the injury which forced tour. Some of the players have

bowler from Sou- Zealand batting lineup who is

whether the world record holder But Richards defended was being distracted from his

"I don't think that's anyone's business on the outside to "He'll have to fight his way know what's right or what's wrong with that particular indi-

"It is Brian's call. If the around the management team feels good about him having his lady here, that's no one's busi-

"Personally I would like to see that that's finished with because, to be honest, some of us comment a little bit too much on something that doesn't concern us.' Richards said he expected

the West Indies would play the

game hard against the young

PM's side, skippered by Test vice-captain Adam Gilchrist. "Certainly they do need some form to get themselves back from that disaster in

Perth," he said. "When these things do happen it's nice to start afresh and this game, there is no letting up. It's an Australian A team, there's a lot of competition and

There is no relaxing for the West Indies. They will be at it all the time."

sure had finally got to his team

pitch in the second innings in

away for four months, we would

"After the way we played in

It will not be easy to moti-

vate an embattled New Zealand

team which suffered a 5-0

beating in a one-day series be-

ries to key bowlers had been a

big blow. "It's disappointing not

to have a few top guns here but

a positive has been the emer-

gence of young bowlers like

Chris Martin. Brooke Walker

hand, are riding a wave of con-

ground we enjoy," said South

African captain Shaun Pollock,

crowds would attend the Wan-

in the wicket for the bowlers."

matches of the series.

"and there's usually something

Pollock said he hoped good

"I think we're playing good

South Africa, on the other

and Kerry Walmsley," he said.

Fleming said a string of inju-

fore losing the first two Tests.

the series against Sri Lanka the second Test that the pres-

been together since a one-day derers Test after disappointing

"There is nobody in the New when they collapsed on a good

Port Elizabeth.

said Fleming.

among those seven.

there would be places at stake to fight for.

SA to give black quickie a go

The ACB has already said it

Condon, Melick

LONDON. Dec 6: World cricket's chief corruption investigator is to fly out to India in the wake of the decision to ban former India captain Mohammad Azharuddin for life and suspend his Test teammate Ajay Jadeja for five years, reports AFP.

International Cricket Council's (ICC) anti-corruption unit and the Australian Cricket Board's (ACB) special investigator Greg Melick are flying to India to follow up the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) report's allegations of malpractice.

The announcement was made at the conclusion of a

"Today's (Tuesday) talks were a private exchange of information and an update of current status concerning ongoing investigations into the CBI report." said Condon. the former head of London's Metropolitan Police.

"As a result of this both Greg Melick and myself are going to India to seek further information relating to the allegations that have been made against

"The visit is being made with the full knowledge and assis-

Korda calls it a day

PRAGUE, Dec 6: Czech Petr Korda, banned for a year in 1998 following a positive drug test, officially retired from the ATP Tour yesterday after losing to Slovakia's Martin Hromec 6-4. 3-6. 6-7 in his comeback ATP Challenger event, reports Reuters.

"I started my career in Prague in 1987 and I am happy that I can end it here as well. You have just seen me play my last singles on the tour." the 32-year-old said after losing to Hromec, ranked 416"

Korda, the 1998 Australian Open champion and briefly ranked as high as number two in the world, was found to have used the banned substance nandrolone at the 1998 Wimbledon championships. After protracted appeals, he was

banned for one year. The ban was largely symbolic as the Czech player retired after failing to qualify for Wimbledon in 1999. He was also ordered to return \$660,000 in prize money he won while his case was pending.

Korda, who continues to proclaim his innocence saying he never knowingly took any banned substance, had not played a match on the tour since.

But the 32-year-old said the lure of playing in the Prague Challenger event in the first week of December was too great since his father's birthday falls on the fifth of that month.

"It was nice to be able to look up into the stands and see my family there. They now are ranked number one in my Cowdrey's son Chris, who world. When I played, the will to win was strong. It was almost later Wednesday and his ashes land's tour for a radio station like a drug, and it has to be to reach the top of tennis. Now, ously the whole family is deeply | it's not there. But I am leaving saddened by the news. It came on my terms and that is nice. he said

Korda said that he will mull several options now that his joining the Davis Cup squad as a coach after he failed to find cials during the doping case.

Waugh may face audit

SYDNEY, Dec 6 (Internet report): The Australian Cricket Board's special investigator into match-fixing, Greg Melick, may seek to subject Australian batsman Mark Waugh to an independent financial audit should he find sufficient evidence against Waugh during his visit to India later this week Waugh has maintained that he has told all there is to know.

Melick, a Sydney barrister and former member of the National Crime Authority, will accompany the head of the International Cricket Council's anti-corruption unit, Sir Paul Condon, to Madras and New Delhi to interview police and

During its inquiry into the involvement of Indian players, the country's Central Bureau of Investigation reported suspicions surrounding seven leading non-Indian players that were based solely on the evidence of bookmaker Mukesh Gupta. Waugh and West Indies batsman Brian Lara were

Gupta said he paid Waugh 20,000 USD for information. Waugh has admitted receiving 4000 USD in Colombo in 1994.

Melick is trying to establish whether the larger sum is a fresh incident that Waugh has kept hidden or whether he and Gupta are quibbling over amounts. It is still unclear whether Gupta is the man who met and paid Waugh in Colombo or another bookmaker

would consider an investigation into Waugh's finances, but this would have to be done with his approval. The batsman said some months ago that he would be willing to allow investigators to delve into his financial records and has repeated that assurance in conversations with senior ACB officials.

coming to India

against Spain back in 1965 and 1967, both times on grass. match will be on a specially prepared red clay court inside the 14,000 capacity Palau Sant Jordi in Barcelona and Spain reckon the change of surface

Paul Condon, head of the will bring a change of luck. will be Spain's fourth successive home tie this season, following comfortable wins over Italy, Russia and the United lost just two out of 15 rubbers

The pair will hold two days of talks with Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) offichals, senior Indian Government otherals and the chief officer of the New Delhi Police.

meeting here Tuesday.

overseas cricketers.

tance of the Indian authorities.

marred by draws. Estonian GM after his 26" move. Jan Ehlvest signed the peace

opening with white pieces and Grishchuk did not face anv

problems in equalising. easy draw against GM Bartlo-

miej Macieja of Poland. breaker games, opened with the smooth victory. King pawn. Anand's choice was

After the opening. Anand de- Gulko of the United States in Lautier of Moldova.

no

42 Barber-

43 Melody

46 1773

47 Rice

49 Dairy

51 Candle

52 Ducks

53 Come in

1 14-line

verse

54 Banshees'

sense!"

jetsam

vampire

product

bracket

problem"

shop call

ACROSS

1 Radius

6 Filleted

12 Sent to

alterna-

tive

15 Singer

16 B&B

17 Cart

19 Pinch

22 Aries

23 Versifier

power

ancestors DOWN

24 Watt's

26 CD's

28 House-

appli-

ance,

30 Potential

syrup

chusetts

resort

area

35 Marion-

ettist's

appara-

39 Admitting

31 Massa-

cleaning

for short

20 School

for M.E.'s

Dion

11 Dull

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

about

more

5 Actress

into

them

8 Goose

egg

of "Father

Knows

Best"

13 Cabinet

WAR

Solution time: 23 mins.

MOM CAR ELLEN

SARAHER

7 The

3 Tin Man's 21 Refuge

Samantha 29 Sled

yoke's on 33 One

9 Donahue 36 Profit

10 Just said 37 Uses vig-

11 Harasses 38 Sports

6 Evolves 31 BBQer's

40 "Houston, 2 Cavort

cessfully deployed his pieces on the kingside. By bringing most of his pieces near to the king. Anand ensured himself a good

The men's section was ang and proposed the draw

Dreev was up against the Chelyabinsk variation of the Slav defense against Topalov. Having the advantage of white for a draw after 21 moves. Ehlvest played the English pieces, referred to as the favorable color. Dreev embarked on a fine plan in the middlegame of China drew the first blood that netted him a space ad-GM Viiswanathan Anand vantage on the king side. On Zhukova of Ukraine. Natalia gave a masterly display of his the 13" move. Topalov erred lost a complicated battle arising defensive technique to get an and lost a king side pawn for out of a French Winawer. effectively no counter-play.

18 Needlefish

briefly

Davis

27 Cornfield

supply

Simpson's

expletive

on an

invest-

ment

orously

page info

paddling

rut in the

41 It takes a

44 Wear a

rug

45 Inter-

48 Stick

twined

with a

kick

50 Right-

turn

com-

mand

32 Each

34 Homer

call

25 Singer

23 Visit

Corretja at seventh in the world teams' number ones. Where Australia have an acafter suffering a virus earlier knowledged superiority is in the this year, and Patrick Rafter doubles, although Spain have had some recent encourage-Absent. however, is Mark ment there as well. Corretja and Juan Balcells

Italy en route to the final and.

barring a last-minute change of

plan, they will team up against

the Aussie pairing of Sandon

Australia had the better of a

Stolle and Mark Woodforde on

minor psychological skirmish

this week when captain John

Newcombe's complaint about

what he saw as a change to the

balls both sides had agreed to

use was upheld by the Interna-

down after the final, has con-

tinued the mind games by sug-

Newcombe, due to stand

tional Tennis Federation.

named as their respective

The spat was prolonged in

The on-court clash will

training this week as the two

men apparently declined to

20-year-old Juan Carlos Ferrero exchange words on meeting

They will be up against the probably have to wait until the

hugely talented 19-year-old Sunday if, as expected, they are

(ranked 12") or Albert Costa again in Barcelona.

-AFP photo.

Philippoussis, hero of last year's final win over France and of a nail-biting five-set victory over won against both the US and George Bastl of Switzerland in the final rubber of their first round match this season. Australia then went on to

Australia's Davis Cup doubles team members Sandon Stolle (L) and Mark Woodforde discuss

something during a practice session at the Palau Sant Jordi Stadium in Barcelona on Decem-

Corretja, ranked eighth in

the world will doubtless be the

number one choice, with either

Lleyton Hewitt, ranked above

but struggling for full fitness

(26) joining him in action.

ber 5. Australia meet Spain in the final of the Davis Cup on Friday.

BARCELONA, Dec

6: Australia's hold

on the Davis Cup

mighty challenge

will face an al

this weekend as

Spain bid to win the trophy

for the first time on their fa-

vonrite clay-court surface and

"We're going into this tie at

backed by a partisan crowd

100 per cent and we're deter-

said Spanish number one Alex

Corretja. "We'll give it all out

points to Australia keeping the

cup they took against France in

Nice last year - their 27" suc

History unquestionably

Two of those victories came

But this time around, the

The final, starting on Friday,

Javier Duarte's side have

mined to fight for everything.

reports Reuters.

there to win this one.

beat Germany, again 3-2, before storming to a 5-0 win in the semifinal against Brazil.

Both Hewitt and Rafter are quality players with strong reputations, but the feeling in Spain is that the home side will have too much class on clay and there has even been speculation that they will win all four singles rubbers.

Hewitt recognised that Spain would provide tough opposition but he said home advantage may not prove enough to make the difference.

"I'm sure this will be an even in those three matches and tougher match than against

they had the satisfaction of France last year," said Hewitt. I'm not sure playing at

seeing off the US 5-0 in a semifinal at Santander 60 home is such a big factor. Duarte says he has already though. To win at home or away made a decision over which of you have to fight. his three top-class clay-court Corretja beat Hewitt at the

gesting his side have a lot less at stake than the opposition. "I think there's a bit more pressure on Spain because the public think they're going to

Saturday.

win," he said. "It could prove a He also warned the Spanish not to expect a game as easy as

the semifinal win over the Americans. 'The US hadn't adapted to singles men to leave out. But he Masters Cup in Lisbon and the clay court conditions and

will reveal nothing until a cou- then added insult to injury by that was the key," said Newple of minutes before tomor- accusing the Australian of going combe. There is no similarity too far with his on-court antics. between the two matches.

Draws dominate Round 4



Russia outplayed Grand Master Veselin Topalov of

Bulgaria to go one up in the fourth round of the World Chess Championships 2000 on Wednesday, reports

treaty in just 14 moves against GM Alexander Grishchuk of

Sicilian Taimanov

cided to keep his king in the 19 moves of a Nimzo Indian center as Macieja had suc- defense. Bareev played the Caposition and confided in the post-match conference that he might have been slightly better.

Macieja sensed that opening of risk up the position might boomer-

pablanca variation, named after a former would champion, and lived dangerously for some time, according to experts. Gulko. however, decided

against going for the kill as it involved a considerable amount Grand Master Alexei Shirov

of Spain too did not get the desirable attacking position against Grandmaster Boris Gelfand of Israel. Playing the English attack. Shirov settled In the women's section, defending Champion GM Xie Jun

Womair GM Ekaterina Ko-

against Women GM Natalia

In a copybook fashion. Dreev valevskava of Russia defeated The Polish, who has an ex- cleared the way for his pieces to Peng Zhaoqin of the Nethercellent reputation in the tie- move in and registered a lands, while International Master Alisa Maric of Yugosla-GM Evgeny Bareev of Russia via drew with International drew with Grandmaster Boris Master Almira Scripchenko-

31 32 33 36 37 38 42 CRYPTOQUIP

YIPOHGY LHHJY YJOKKIW WNJIY

NLVOIMI PINK YGLLIYY. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HEADLINE: ROBBER

THE CAKE! Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals C

BREAKS INTO LOCAL BAKERIES AND TAKES

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.



Samaranch posthumously

Olympic supremo Antonio founder of the modern Olym-Samaranch led the tributes to A man of enormous values, that he was transferred to an distance running legend Emil Emil Zatopek was a legend and Zampek at a packed memorial

PRAGUE. Dec 6:

International

service for the quadruple gold

gold at both the London Olym-

1952, where he added the

5.000m and then the marathon

title at his first attempt at the

He died on November 21 at

Samaranch joined sports

the age of 78 following a long

personalities. diplomats and

Zatopek's widow, Dana Za-

topkova, who won gold in the

javelin at the 1952 Olympics.

among the mourners at Pra-

gue's imposing 19th-century

for Zatopek's funeral to be ele-

vated to the rank of a state oc-

casion. his widow had appealed

for the occasion not to be

Klim claims

100m title

painful back injury to win the

shortcourse FINA World Cup

swim meet here Tuesday, re-

100-metre freestyle in the

Despite calls from politicians

Zatopek ran to the 10.000m

ports AFP.

distance.

illness.

National Theatre.

turned into "a circus".

MELBOURNE.

ports AFP.

legends never disappear," said Samaranch. Other mourners including International Amateur Athletics Ferderation (IAAF) president Lamine Diack and the Olympic marathon champion in 1946. Alain Mimoun of France, and Lasse Viren of Finland, who won Olympic 10.000m gold in 1972 and 1976, formed a guard of honour around Zatopek's coffin, which was draped in the

Czech flag. posthumously awarded Zatopek the IAAF's

"Golden Order of Merit" The ceremony was accompanied by the traditional music of Zatopek's home region. Moravia, and ended with a salvo fired by Czech soldiers,

television screens. will be interned early next year before flying back, said, "Obviin a cemetery in Roznov-pod-Radhostem northern Moravia

watched the ceremony on giant death," Hussain said.

The athlete whose awkward running style belied his re-· Australia. markable fitness became a hero stroke. Dec 6: Michael Klim overcame a in the then Czechoslovakia, but fell from official grace after the Prague Spring where he took the microphone in Wenceslas Square to speak out against the presence of Soviet tanks.

Pro-Soviet military officials awarded Zatopek the Pierre de bounced him out of the Czech Coubertin medal, the IOC's army and he was forced into highest honour named after the manual jobs at the age of 45. It was not until 1974, six

years after the Soviet invasion.

administrative post.

English mourn Colin's death KARACHI, Dec 6: England's

"Sir Cowdrey was a gifted cricketer as well as the nicest person you could meet and a friend to the England team." England captain Nasser Hus-

land on Tuesday after a protracted illness. "The England team has lost Thousands of Czechs a good friend with Cowdrey's

Zatopek was to be cremated was in Pakistan covering Engas a great shock as he was recovering well from a recent

England's most experienced | playing days are over, but ruled batsman Alec Stewart eulogised out any immediate thought of greatest cricketers produced by support from Czech tennis offi-

cricket team touring Pakistan Tuesday expressed grief and sorrow over the loss of their former skipper Sir Colin Cowdrey, calling it the loss of a great person, reports AFP.

Cowdrey. 67. died in Eng-

Cowdrey's achievement, describing him as one of the the country.

