

Inter-college women's h'ball begins today

Sports Reporter
The Delta Life Insurance first inter-college and hall women's handball competition...



Shafat Ahmed Chaudhury, Managing Director of sponsors Delta Life Insurance, is seen addressing a press conference in connection with the Delta Insurance first inter-college women's handball meet scheduled for a start from today.

Sheffield United bite dust

LONDON, Oct 6: Second Division Blackpool hung on grimly to knock Sheffield United out of the English League Cup second round on Tuesday in the only giant-killing act of the night...

at Wolverhampton after leading 1-0 with nine minutes left through Nicky Summerbee's 59th minute effort.

Then Wolves exposed some of the flaws that have sent the Wiltshire Club to the foot of the Premiership with an 81st minute header from Derek Mountfield and a close-range effort from Mark Burke two minutes from time.

On the opening day, Viqarunnisa Noon School and College take on Holy Cross College at 3-00 pm.

Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar will inaugurate the meet as chief guest while Safat Ahmed Chaudhury, Managing Director of the sponsors, Delta Life Insurance Company, will be present as a special guest.

Eleven metropolis colleges and university halls, split into two groups, will compete in the 14-day long meet.

Ek Jhank Paira, Rokon in Shah Sports Cup final

Sports Reporter
Rokonpur Youth Club and Ek Jhank Paira will play in the final of the Shah Sports Cup juvenile soccer tournament.

Mamun gave losers the lead but two goals from Shaju and one from Masum helped Rokonpur chalk up a comfortable victory in the end.

The match was interrupted for some time as supporters and players of the two teams got engaged in alarming affray.

In the other semifinal, Ek Jhank Paira blanked Antaranga two goals to nil with Anwar netting twice.

This match also conjured up ugly scenes of lawlessness as juvenile footballers in an appalling demonstration of temper and daring attacked the man in black in league with supporters armed with deadly weapons like chapatil.

Cox's Bazar soccer
From Our Correspondent
COX'S BAZAR, Oct 6: Friends Union Club outplayed Olympic Sporting Club 3-0 in the Cox's Bazar football league '93 at the local stadium here today.

Abul scored twice for the winners in the 22nd and 30th minutes of the game while Kashem completed the tally in the ninth minute of the second half.

A new chapter in OM scandal

NANTES, France, Oct 6: A French prosecutor opened inquiries into a second allegation of attempted murder by beleaguered European champions Marseille on Tuesday as a new chapter

opened in the long running bribery scandal, reports Reuter.

That investigation followed a statement by Eydelie to Befly on Friday that Tapie had offered him a bribe last month to deny his earlier confession in the Valenciennes case.

It's a big day for Maradona

ROSARIO, Argentina, Oct 6: Diego Maradona makes his second comeback here on Thursday in an attempt to get back into Argentina's World Cup team, reports AFP.

The world's best-known footballer, who insists he has lost 10 kilos since being sacked by Spanish club Sevilla in June, plays for his new Argentine side Newell's Old Boys in a friendly against Ecuador club Emelec.

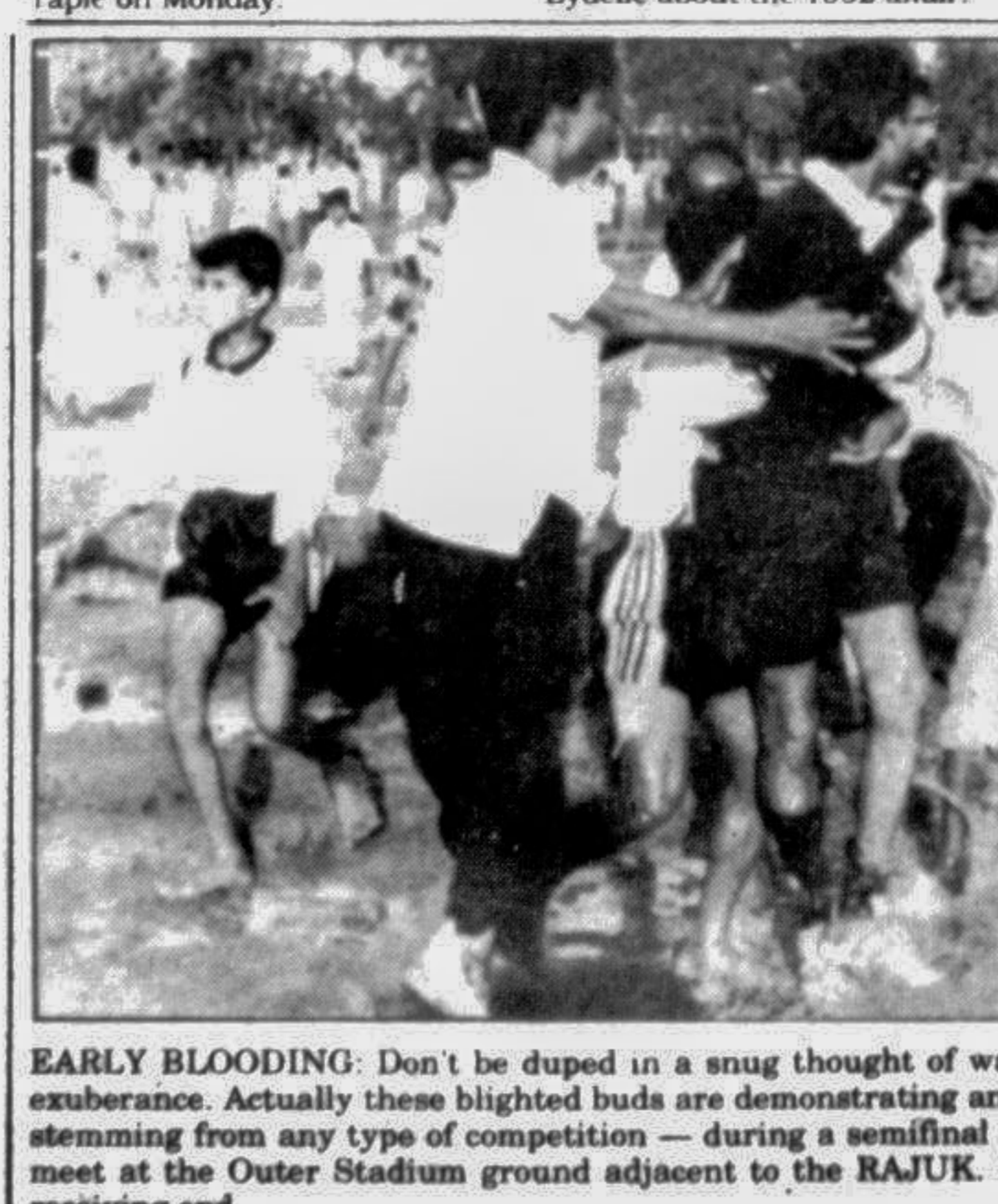
The sources said Cadenat had asked Marseille police to interrogate both Bernes and Eydelie about the 1992 affair.

Earthquake adds to IHF jinx

NEW DELHI, Oct 6: India's jinxed Indra Gandhi Gold Cup men's hockey tournament has been postponed for a fourth time following last week's devastating earthquake, reports Reuter.

National coach Alfio Basile is a special guest as Maradona tries to convince him he should be in the team to play Australia in Sydney on October 31, the day after his 33rd birthday.

Argentina have been forced to play off against the Oceania champions for a place in the United States next year after being humiliated 5-0 at home by Colombia in their final South American group qualifier.



EARLY BLOODING: Don't be duped in a snug thought of watching youngsters giving vent to exuberance. Actually these blighted buds are demonstrating an alarming societal evil - violence stemming from any type of competition - during a semifinal tie of Shah Sports juvenile soccer meet at the Outer Stadium ground adjacent to the RAJUK. Poor referee appears to be at the receiving end.

Lankan squad for Sharjah Trophy named

COLOMBO, Oct 6: Sri Lanka on Wednesday announced a 15-member squad for this month's Sharjah Champion Trophy which also includes Pakistan and the West Indies, report AP.

India have turned down an invitation to play in the tournament citing a pro-Pakistani bias in the conduct of the matches.

The matches will be played from Oct 28 to Nov 5. The same squad will represent Sri Lanka in the West Bengal Diamond Jubilee Tournament from Nov 7 to 27 in India, the cricket board said in a statement.

SQUAD

Arjuna Ranatunga (Captain), Aravinda de Silva, Roshan Mahanama, Chandika Hathurusinghe, Asanka Gurusingha, Hashan Tillekeratne, Sanath Jayasuriya, Ruwan Kalpage, Pramodya Wickremasinghe, Pabudu Dassanayake, Champaka Ramanayaka, Romesh Kuluwitthana, Dulip Liyanage, Muttiah Muralidharan and Duleep Samarawera.

BCCI awaits NZC signal

CALCUTTA, Oct 6: Jagmohan Dalmiya, the secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), said today that the New Zealand Cricket (NZC) is yet to make any direct communication to the BCCI for reviving the Indian tour of New Zealand in March next year, reports PTI.

Reacting to a news item for Auckland which said that the New Zealand Cricket is willing to redraft the itinerary, Dalmiya said, "They are yet to communicate to us directly."

The BCCI had earlier turned down the offer to tour New Zealand on the ground that the tour involves only four one-day internationals and no Test match.

Dalmiya said, "It would not be justified to send the team just for four one-dayers. It would be over-taxing them."

Peter McDermott, the chairman of the New Zealand Cricket, had said that the Indian demand for including a Test match is being looked into but, "we have to be careful not to over-burden our players."

Karpov-Timman tie to resume in Jakarta

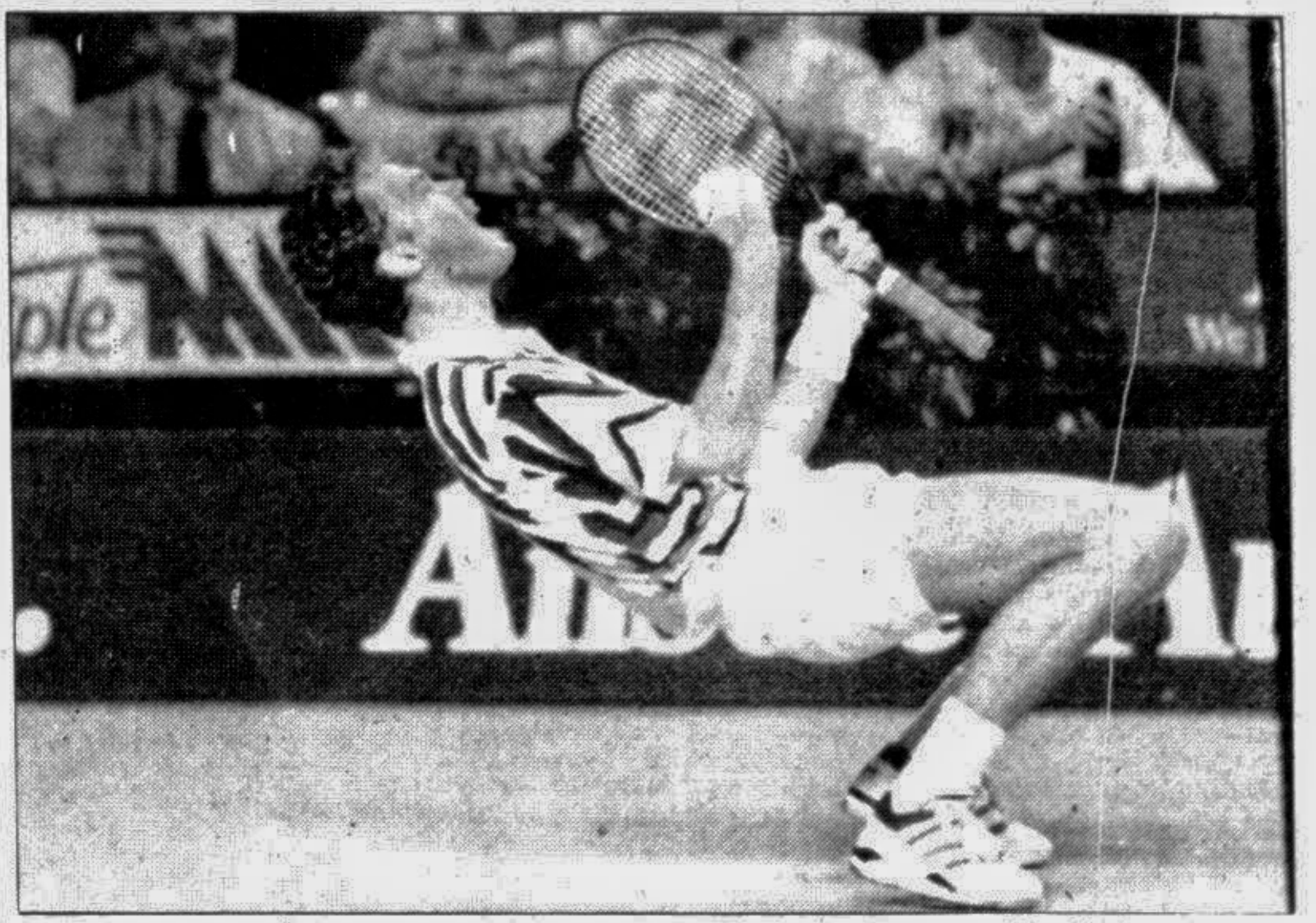
JAKARTA, Oct 6: Former titlist Anatoly Karpov of Russia, leading 7-5 in games, will resume his World Championship battle against Jan Timman of the Netherlands in Jakarta this month, the World chess federation said Wednesday, reports AP.

The remaining 12 games will be played at Jakarta's Hilton International Hotel starting Oct 17, said Florencio Campomanes, president of the federation, known as FIDE. The first 12 were played in the Netherlands.

The winner is to receive 625,000 Swiss francs (dus 440,000) from the total purse of 1 million francs (dus 705,000). Campomanes said the series was expected to run until Nov 17.

Karpov and Timman are playing for the world title after FIDE stripped world champion Garry Kasparov of his title. It refused to recognize a championship series between Kasparov and English challenger Nigel Short because both refused to play in Manchester, England, under the umbrella of FIDE.

Karpov and Timman are expected to arrive in Jakarta on Oct 11, said Campomanes.



Unseeded Australian Neil Borwick jubilates after defeating three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker from Germany in the first round of the Australian Indoor tennis championships in Sydney yesterday. Borwick won the match 4-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-3.

Borwick leaves Becker in cold

SYDNEY, Oct 6: Australian wild card Neil Borwick upset ailing two-time champion Boris Becker of Germany 4-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-3 Wednesday night in the first round of the durs 875,000 Australian Indoor tennis championships, report agencies.

Borwick, ranked 113th in the world, saved a match point in the second set tiebreaker and then broke No. 2 seed Becker's serve three times in the final set.

The high-Octane slugger, who lost the top spot to Sampras during last month's US Open in New York, claimed he did not dwell on what he needs to do to reclaim the lead.

Becker, the 1986 and 1990 champion, said he felt the effects of a virus that struck him two days earlier.

Tall left-hander Borwick, a 26-year-old journeyman from Brisbane who beat an injured Ivan Lendl at the US Open last month, continued a fine run after making the semifinals in Kuala Lumpur last week.

Becker served 10 double faults, one of them to concede the second set, as Borwick maintained his composure and often defused the German's serve with some accurate returns. Borwick also served 12 aces to Becker's nine.

Borwick clinched the victory with an acrobatic forehand down the line and was given a rousing cheer by the crowd after a 2-hour, 31-minute struggle.

Earlier, American Jim Courier hammered his way into the last eight and then decried any fetishness of regaining the world No. 1 slot from Pete Sampras.

Courier had a few anxious moments in the first set when he let slip a 4-0 lead before taking out Australian Davis Cup player Richard Fromberg 6-4, 6-3 in 86 minutes.

Courier described his second-round victory over Fromberg as a "straight up" match, yet it appeared the first set was slipping away from him when Fromberg strung together four games to pull level.

Fromberg's game improved immeasurably, he was trading cracking forehands with the American, but the world No. 2 steadied, held his fifth service game before breaking in the 10th with a hot forehand return that Fromberg could only just get his racquet to.

Courier broke Fromberg's serve for a fourth time in the fourth game of the second set, gaining control of a rally to volley home from the net to lead 3-1.

Fromberg served up three straight aces in the eighth game, but the match was out of reach with Courier winning it on the second of his three match points.

Courier now takes on the winner of the Jaime Yzaga or Wally Masur tie in the quarter-finals.

Earlier, Peruvian Yzaga, ranked 54, ousted Californian scraper Brad Gilbert in straight sets, while Masur, a semifinalist at this year's US Open and eighth seed here, conceded just two games in overcoming Dutchman Jacco Eltingh in 56 minutes.

Only last week in Kuala Lumpur, Eltingh, 61 in the world, dumped Courier out of the Malaysian Open in a second-round encounter.

Swede Mikael Pernfors advanced to the quarter-finals with 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 win over local Jamie Morgan. Monday night's conqueror of fifth seeded Dutchman Richard Krajicek.

Pernfors, working his way back up the rankings after a career-threatening Achilles' tendon injury several years ago, will play the winner of the match between defending champion Goran Ivanisevic and American qualifier Steve Bryan.

Kasparov three points away

LONDON, Oct 6: Reigning champion Garry Kasparov inched closer to retaining his title with a draw in the 13th game of his world chess match with British challenger Nigel Short on Tuesday, but was clearly furious with his own play, reports Reuter.

Kasparov leads the 24-game series 9-4 after five wins and eight draws but has made no impression on his opponent over the last four games.

The Azeri-born champion needs only a 12-12 tie to keep the crown, and 12-1/2 points to take the 5-8ths winner's share of the 1.7 million pound (2.5 million dollar) purse sponsored by the Times newspaper of London.

Short, 28, surprised Kasparov as early as the second move when he adopted the Slav Variation of the queen's gambit for the first time in his career.

Kasparov, playing white, used a great deal of time on the opening phase of the game

eventually reaching a simplified position that posed the challenger few problems.

After 36 moves, an end game with one knight and four pawns for each payer was reached and immediately agreed drawn.

A member of the Short camp described Kasparov as "livid" after the game, as the champion felt he had spilt a golden opportunity to increase his lead.

Short told reporters, later, he had never been worried by the prospect of defeat. But Kasparov was testy and quickly disappeared after the post-match news conference, clearly disappointed with the day's result.

Kasparov conceded earlier this week that Short was playing better, although even experts believe the Briton is too late to mount a comeback.

"He (Short) is definitely progressing and I am more impressed by his play than before the match. Short must be one of the favourites to ... challenge me in 1995," Kasparov told the Times.

The 14th game, with Short having the advantage of the white pieces and first move, is scheduled for Thursday.

The official world chess body FIDE is expected to announce the venue for the resumption of its World Championship match between Russian Anatoly Karpov and Dutchman Jan Timman on Wednesday.

The FIDE match was suspended after 12 games with Karpov leading 7-5 after the withdrawal of second half sponsors in Oman.

The organisers of the first half of the match, held in the Netherlands, failed to raise any money towards the advertised prize fund of 1.8 million pounds (2.7 million dollars).

FIDE has pledged to guarantee the minimum prize fund of one million Swiss francs (706,700 dollars) in accordance with FIDE regulations.

Kasparov and Short were disqualified by FIDE after a dispute over title match conditions and the players formed the breakaway professional Chess Association.

Michael Jordan bids adieu

NEW YORK, OCT 6: Michael Jordan, one of the world's most famous athletes and basketball's greatest player, will announce his retirement Wednesday, according to NBC and published reports, says AP.

"Dateline NBC," the Denver Post and the Chicago Sun-Times reported the news almost simultaneously Tuesday night.

Jordan, NBA scoring champion the last seven years, leader of the three-time champions Chicago Bulls and two-time Olympic gold-medal winner, is expected to cite his father's slaying this summer as the reason for his retirement at age 30.

"It's time for me to move on to something else," the Sun-Times quoted Jordan as saying. "I know a lot of people are going to be shocked by this decision and probably won't understand. But I've talked it over with my

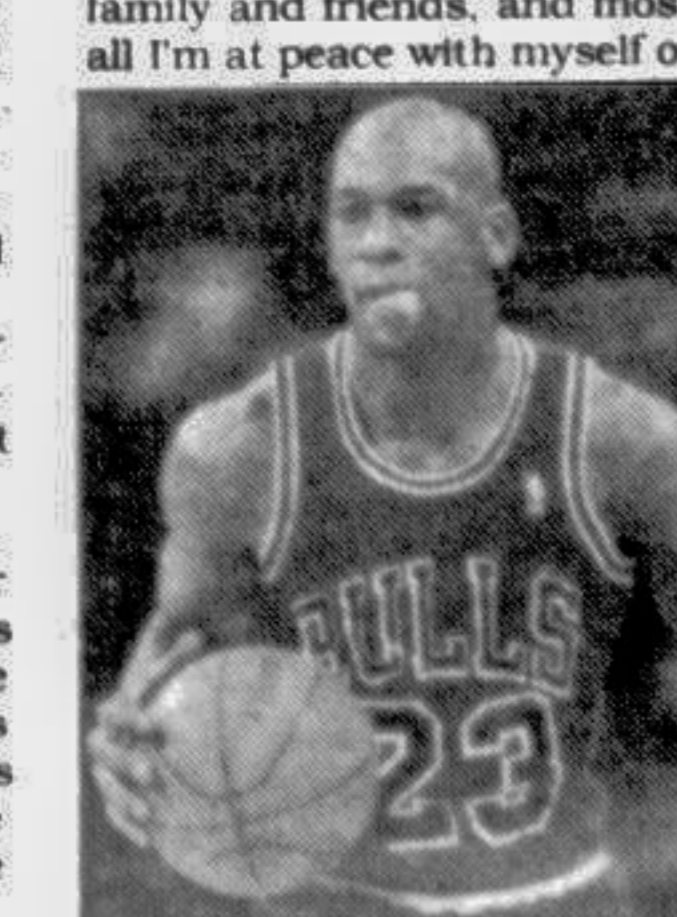
family and friends, and most of all I'm at peace with myself over the decision."

robbed Jordan of his desire to play, the Post said.

Dateline NBC producer Neil Shapiro said the show learned of Jordan's plans from "authoritative sources close to the NBA."

The Bulls have scheduled a news conference at 1500 GMT Wednesday to make what they called a "major announcement."

Jordan threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Tuesday night's play-off opener between the Chicago White Sox and the Toronto Blue Jays at Comiskey Park in Chicago. He left after the seventh inning, got behind the wheel of a black Mercedes-Benz and drove off.



MICHAEL JORDAN