



Bayer Leverkusen's Paulo Sergio (R) skips a sliding tackle by Parma captain Lorenzo Minotti during their second leg UEFA Cup semifinal match in Italy on April 18. Parma beat the German club 3-0.

All-Italian UEFA Cup final

LONDON, Apr 19: For the third time in six years, the UEFA Cup final will be an all-Italian contest.

Juventus and Parma, currently first and second in the Italian First Division and already scheduled to meet in the Italian Cup final, defeated German opponents in the second-leg UEFA Cup semifinals Tuesday night, reports AP.

World Cup star Roberto Baggio scored the decisive goal with a 25-metre free kick as Juve defeated Borussia Dortmund 2-1 to advance on a 4-3 aggregate, while Colombian forward Faustino Asprilla netted twice to lead Parma past Bayer Leverkusen 3-0 for a 5-1 total score.

The final will be played over two legs, May 3 and 17, with Parma hosting the first match. The winner will become the sixth Italian team to take home the trophy in the last seven years.

Baggio, who had not been in his best form recently following a long layoff with an injured knee, was the undisputed star for Juventus at Dortmund, scoring one goal and setting up another.

"It was important to qualify, and we did it," Baggio said. "It was a tough game. Now we can begin thinking of Parma. Let's hope we can win at least one of the finals."

Before advancing, however, Baggio and his Juventus teammates had to survive several second-half scares from Borussia, including a goal by substitute Lars Ricken in the 70th minute that was disallowed because the linesman apparently ruled that the ball had gone out of bounds before Ibrahim Tanko's cross.

M United not selling Ince

MANCHESTER, Apr 19: Despite reports that Inter Milan are interested, Manchester United insist that Paul Ince is not for sale, reports AP.

United on Wednesday confirmed they had received inquiries from the Italian club concerning a big-money deal for the England midfielder, but had "slammed the door" in Inter's face.

"It's true that we did have an inquiry from Inter about Paul some time ago, but chairman Martin Edwards slammed the door firmly in their face at that time and nothing has changed or happened to change our view," United assistant secretary Ken Ramsden said. "As far as we're aware, there have been no recent approaches from Inter whatsoever and so Paul's position has not altered."

Inter's new president, Massimo Moratti, told the sports daily Gazzetta dello Sport earlier this week that he was still interested in Ince.

"Ince is the new Frank Rijkaard," Moratti said. "I don't understand why he hasn't been playing in Italy for years. I'd sign him straight away, but I know it won't be easy."

Unconfirmed British reports said Inter were offering seven million pounds (11.2 million dollars) for Ince.

United recently dismissed an offer from Inter for French star Eric Cantona, who is banned from the game until October for an attack on a fan.

"To be honest, it's a damn nuisance to have these sort of stories at this stage of the season and you sometimes wonder if it's being done to unsettle Paul or the club," Ramsden said. "You can't stop the Italians doing it, but Paul Ince is a Manchester United player and as far as we're concerned he will remain one for the foreseeable future."

"We knew it would be difficult here, but we didn't expect such a tough match against this young Borussia side," Baggio said. "We had to fight hard until the very end to make sure of reaching the final."

Juventus took the lead in the seventh minute when Baggio's corner from the right was met by defender Sergio Porrini's unchallenged header at the far post. Baggio won it in the 31st when he curled a

about the health of their German defender, Juergen Kohler, who had to leave the game in the opening minutes with a groin injury. Juventus, who hold a commanding 11-point lead in the Italian league standings with seven games remaining, are seeking their third UEFA Cup title.

At Parma, a gamble by new Leverkusen coach Erich Ribbeck failed to pay off as his team tried to make up a 2-1 first-leg deficit on the road. Ribbeck, hired after Dragoslav Stepanovic was dismissed following the first leg, started 36-year-old Bernd Schuster, usually an offensive midfielder, to play sweeper.

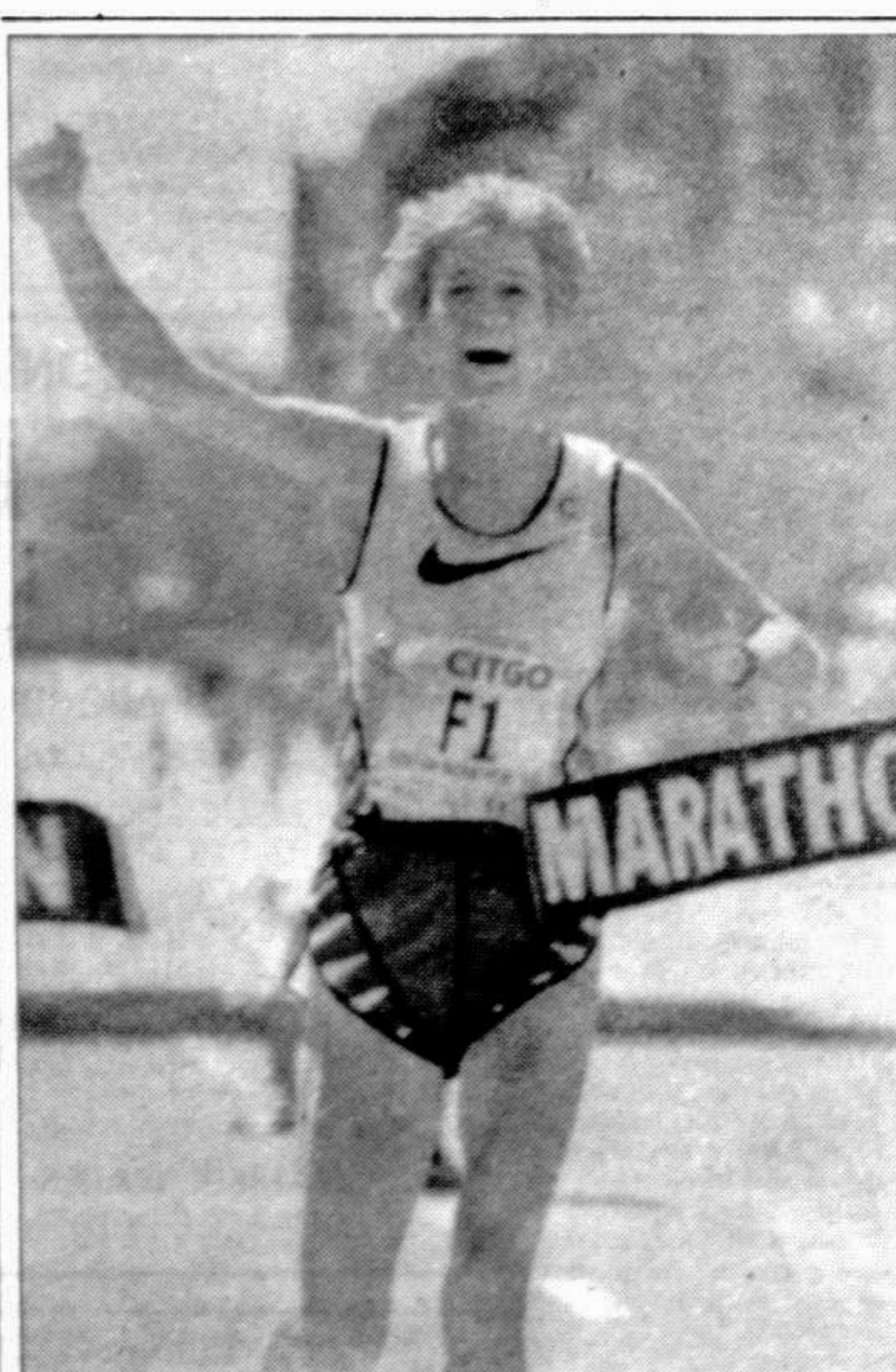
Schuster anchored a Leverkusen defence that remained a step behind the quicker Italians. It was Schuster's dreadful pass attempt, intercepted by midfielder Gianfranco Zola deep in Leverkusen territory, that led to Asprilla's second goal on an easy breakaway in the 55th minute.

"After we conceded the second goal, that was very demoralising for our team," Ribbeck said. "That pass (from Schuster) was deadly. It was like an own goal."

Asprilla opened the scoring in third minute, putting in the rebound after Italian teammate Massimo Crippa's shot was blocked by goalkeeper Ruediger Vollborn. Parma made it 3-0 in the 66th when Asprilla's pass set up Zola, who scored for the fifth time in the competition this season.

The victory put Parma in a European final for the third consecutive year. They won the Cup Winners' Cup in 1993 and were runners-up to Arsenal in the same tournament last year. Tuesday's results also reinforced Italy's UEFA Cup dominance, which began in 1989 when Napoli defeated Stuttgart at the beginning of the season, and the Brazilian sweeper found a hole in the Italian wall with a ground shot into the left corner of the net.

Juventus defender Ciro Ferrara, whose foul set up the free kick, earned a yellow card for the offence and will miss the first leg of the final. Also, Juventus will be concerned



Germany's Uta Pippig crosses the finish line to win the women's 99th running of the Boston Marathon in Boston, Massachusetts on April 17. Pippig won for the second year in a row with a time of 2:25:11.

Brazil atop FIFA rankings

ZURICH, Apr 19: World champions Brazil maintained their lead in the latest world soccer rankings issued by FIFA today, reports Reuter.

- Leading placings (1994 positions in brackets) 1. Brazil (1) 66.26 points 2. Italy (4) 62.04 3. Spain (2) 61.29 4. Germany (5) 60.53 5. Sweden (3) 60.43 6. Norway (8) 59.24 7. Netherlands (6) 59.02 8. Argentina (11) 58.66 9. Mexico (15) 57.69 10. Romania (11) 57.04 11. Ireland (9) 56.73 12. Switzerland (7) 56.22 13. Bulgaria (16) 55.34 14. Portugal (20) 54.71 15. Denmark (14) 54.48 16. Colombia (17) 52.39 17. Russia (13) 51.50 18. France (19) 51.04 19. Nigeria (12) 49.84 20. England (18) 49.52

Still no room for Romario

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 19: Coach Mario Zagalo announced a 22-player roster for the national soccer team which meets Valencia for an exhibition game on April 27 in Spain, reports AP.

Zagalo made the announcement Tuesday afternoon at the headquarters of the Brazilian Soccer Confederation in downtown Rio.

The Brazilian coach, who last week summoned eight members of the world champion team who play for foreign clubs, rounded out his roster with young players from the Brazilian league.

Zagalo said he failed to summon Romario, the Brazilian league's second top goal scorer for the Flamengo club, because the attacker recently suffered a leg injury.

"Romario has already shown he wants to return to the national team and I have no problem with that," he said. "But we'll have to wait until he is ready to play again."

Instead, the coach named a group of young players that form the core of his plans to revamp the national team before the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, such as Tullio, Sousa and Juninho.

The Brazilian roster includes: Goalies: Zetti, Dida. Defencesmen: Jorginho, Caju, Leonardo, Lira, Aldair, Marcio Santos, Adriano, Argel. Midfielders: Dunga, Leandro, Doriva, Beto, Juninho, Giovanni, Sergio Manoel. Attackers: Bebeto, Ronaldo, Sousa, Tullio, Viola.

Soccer fanatics go on rampage

KIEV, Apr 19: Soccer fans in the Ukrainian city of Dnipropetrovsk smashed six trams after their team won its first game under a new manager, reports Reuter.

Trouble erupted after Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk, coached by former East Germany team chief Bernd Stange, defeated Tschepetivka 1-0 Monday. Cheering youths flooded out of the stadium and crammed into passing trams, breaking windows, repping out seats and throwing them into the street, city officials said.

Soccer violence is almost unknown in post-Soviet Ukraine, where teams normally play to near-empty stadiums deserted by spectators far more concerned with day-to-day economic survival.

Stange signed a 1-1/2 years contract with Dnipro, fourth in the national league.

"I was offered contracts in Egypt, Turkey and United Arab Emirates," he said. "But I chose Dnipro—the only team which can reach a European Cup."

5 more Cuban boxers banned

BONN, Apr 19: Five Cuban boxers, including former world bantamweight champion Enrique Carrion, have been banned for two years for taking the banned diuretic furosemide, the International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA) said today, reports Reuter.

AIBA said the Cuban Boxing Federation had announced the ban after the boxers tested positive for the drug during out-of-competition tests. The international federation has suspended the fighters from all events.

The other fighters on the list were Alexander Jimenez Rodriguez, a junior flyweight world champion, Mario Kindean Mesa, Yoandri Reyes Pie and Ernesto Cabrera Laugar. Last November Cuban world flyweight champion Waldemar Font and Manuel Mantilla Rodriguez, who won gold medals at last year's Goodwill Games in St Petersburg, tested positive for the same drug.

Magic eyes Olympic gold

LOS ANGELES, Apr 19: Magic Johnson wants another gold medal.

Johnson, whose NBA career was cut short in 1991 when he tested positive for the virus that causes AIDS, wants to play for the United States in the 1996 Olympic Games at Atlanta, his agent said Tuesday, reports AP.

In the 1992 Olympics at Barcelona, NBA players represented the United States for the first time. Led by Johnson and Michael Jordan, the Americans won the gold medal by routing every opponent.

"It's his desire to participate in the Olympics in 1996," Johnson's agent, Lon Rosen, said from his office in suburban Century City. "He's been playing for the last year and a half on his tour. The team is 45-0."

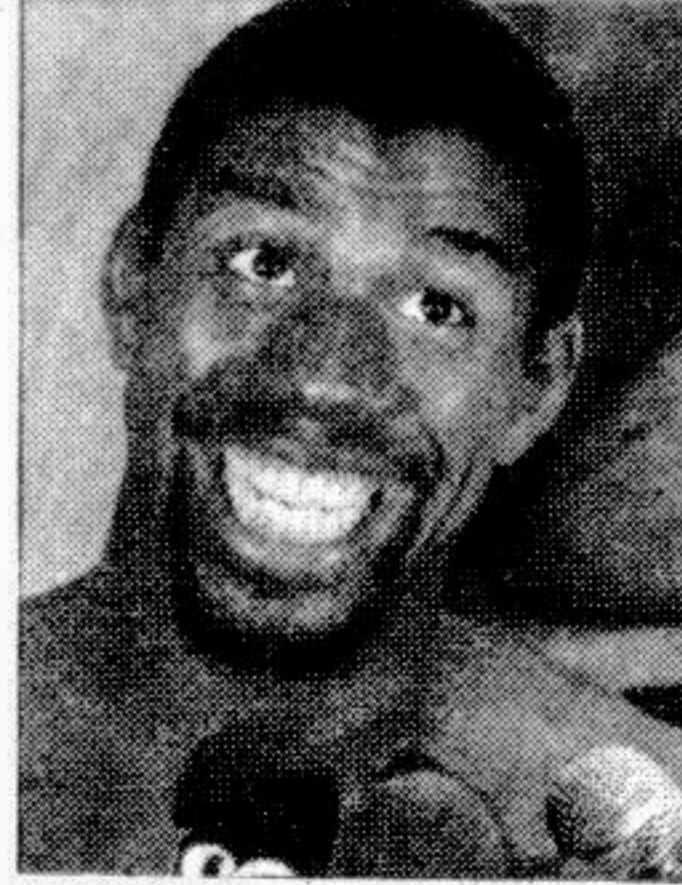
"He averages 40 minutes a game and is in excellent shape. He feels as good as ever."

The United States will again use NBA players at the Atlanta Olympics. An 11-member committee from USA Basketball is to select the 12-player team by the end of the summer, with a coach appointed probably next month. Lenny Wilkens, the NBA's winningest coach, is considered the likely choice.

Rosen said Johnson's touring team has played against international teams from Australia, Germany, Puerto Rico, Spain, Italy, France, Portugal and Argentina.

Johnson, who turns 36 in August, is averaging in double figures in points, rebounds and assists.

Johnson was in Florida for a



MAGIC JOHNSON

speaking engagement and unavailable for comment Tuesday, Rosen said.

Johnson revolutionized the point guard position in 12 seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers.

Johnson retired shortly before

the start of the 1991-92 season after learning he had tested positive for the virus that causes AIDS. He led the Lakers to five NBA championships and won the league's Most Valuable Player award three times.

"He feels he's playing just as well as he was playing when he retired from professional basketball," Rosen said. "He no longer wears his knee braces, his legs are fresh. He's in the same great basketball shape he was in before the 1992 Games, at the top of his game."

Johnson was the first selection of the NBA draft in 1979 after leading Michigan State to the US college championship as a sophomore.

When he retired, Johnson was the NBA's career assist leader, but his record was broken this season by Utah's John Stockton.

Even though he retired before the 1991-92 season, he starred in the NBA All-Star game that winter, and played in the Olympics the following summer.

Following the Olympics, Johnson decided to make a comeback with the Lakers in the 1992-93 season, but changed his mind in the wake of adverse reaction by some players and others involved with the NBA.

Clinton joins Boston Marathon winners

WASHINGTON, Apr 19: Keeping his own pace, President Clinton took a leisurely jog Wednesday with the winners of the Boston Marathon, reports AP.

Surrounded by the group, Clinton led the pack — which included Cosmas Ndeti of Kenya, the men's winner, and Uta Pippig of Germany, the women's champion — once around Haines Point for the not-quite-marathon length of 5 kilometers (3 miles).

"It was great," Clinton said, when asked about the jog. "I wasn't too hard on them."

Both repeat winners of the annual race, Ndeti took his third straight title this year, while Pippig won for a second year in a row.

Also joining the president were Martin Mondragon, Mexico, and Irina Bondarchuk, Russia, winners in the Masters category for runners over 40; and the wheelchair winners, Franz Nietlispach, Switzerland, and Jean Driscoll, the only US winner. It was Driscoll's sixth consecutive title.

Schneider hangs skies up

GENEVA, Apr 19: Swiss skiing star Vreni Schneider announced her retirement Wednesday after a career studied with three overall World Cup crowns, three World Championship titles and three Olympic gold medals, reports AP.

"I want to inform you that I've decided to end my career," the 30-year-old veteran told a news conference in Zurich, ending weeks of speculation about her plans.

Schneider will go down in the record books as Switzerland's most successful ever female athlete. She won 55 World Cup races, short of the record of 62 wins held by retired Austrian great Annemarie Moser-Proell.

Her last season was one of her best. In addition to the overall World Cup title she claimed the slalom and giant slalom crystal globes.

She also won the overall titles in 1989 — when she notched up a record 14 season victories — and 1994.

Schneider won gold medals in the slalom and giant slalom in the 1988 Olympics and in the slalom in Lillehammer last year.

She won World Championship crowns in 1987, 1989 and 1991.

Schneider won her first World Cup race in 1984 and subsequently became the most consistent skier on the women's circuit. Although she disliked the speed races, she forced herself to compete in downhill and super-G's to pick up extra points.

She never left the success go to her head and frequently complained that she became more and more nervous as time went by. She led a quiet private life and one of her favorite past-times was knitting.

Schneider had been torn over whether to compete for a further year to take part in the World Championships, postponed in February.

However, her decision to quit was influenced by the retirement last month of her trainer and friend, Paul-Andre Dubosson.

At the press conference Schneider said she wanted to spend more time on her sports shops in her native towns of Elm and Glarus in rural eastern Switzerland.

WLAFL starts from scratch

LONDON, Apr 19: In 1991-92, the World League of American Football (WLAFL) was a multimillion-dollar loser, a failed experiment that drew half-empty stadiums and minuscule television ratings. Now, the NFL says it has learned from its mistakes and is ready to give it another try, reports AP.

On Saturday, the WLAFL returns with a new format and a different attitude. Instead of trying to run 10 teams on two continents, the WLAFL is starting off this time with only six clubs — all in Europe — and a better sense of how to market the game to a non-American audience.

"We have a 100 per cent focus on Europe this time," said Oliver Luck, general manager of the Duesseldorf Rhein Fire. "Last time we had some European teams, some US teams. We really didn't have an identity. Were we a feeder league for the NFL, or were we here to promote football in Europe? This time all the teams are in Europe, and we're in a position to develop the sport."

The Fire, the Amsterdam Admirals and the Scottish Claymores, based in Edinburgh, are the league's three new franchises. They join three holdover clubs, the London Monarchs, Frankfurt Galaxy and Barcelona Dragons, which were the most successful teams in the original league.

But the World League probably wouldn't be back at all if it weren't for a \$20 million commitment from media tycoon Rupert Murdoch's News Corp, the parent company of the Fox TV network in the United States, and the British-based Sky satellite network, which is seen throughout Europe.

Together, the National Football League and News Corp are investing \$40 million over the next four years. Games will be televised throughout Europe on Sky and other channels — and not to disinterested viewers in the United States.

"Last time, we had to work around American television schedules" with the USA and

ABC networks, NFL president Neil Austrian said. "We were trying to do too many things. This time US television is not a factor."

Focusing on Europe means paying more attention to European fans. The Monarchs, for example, averaged more than 40,000 per game in London in 1991, but haphazard scheduling contributed to a 50 per cent dropoff the following year.

"Last time we didn't have a real good feel for European holidays, the habits of the people in Germany and Britain and Spain," Luck said. "When was the best time to schedule a game — Saturday at 3 or Sunday at 6? A bad game time can be fatal."

One thing that was a big hit last time was the razzmatazz unique to American sports.

"We found out that Europeans truly loved a day of Americans," Austrian said. "It was safe — and I underline that — there were no hooligans, no crowd trouble. People could take their wives, families, girlfriends for a full day of entertainment, starting with the pre-game, the game itself, halftime and the tailgate parties after the game, which re-

Walton climbs

VIRGINIA WATER, England, Apr 19: Ireland's Philip Walton jumped from 51st to 10th on this week's PGA European Tour money list after his weekend victory at the Catalan Open, reports AP.

Walton, winning his first tournament in five years, took home 50,000 pounds (dls 80,000) to increase his year's earnings to 66,760 pounds (dls 106,816).

Fred Couples of the United States, a non-tour member who won the first two events of the year, continued to top the list with 175,000 pounds (dls 280,000). Robert Karlsson of Sweden, who finished tied for 36th at the Catalan tournament, moved up to second with 90,600 pounds (dls 144,960).

The next tournament, the Cannes Open in France, starts Thursday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solution time: 24 mins. ACROSS: 1 Etagere part, 6 Fly, 12 Tar, 13 Grand Testament poet, 14 Infuriate, 15 Walking on air, 16 Adolescent, 17 Count's counter-part, 19 Check-casher's two, 20 Nitwit, 22 Suitable, 24 — Claire, Wis., 27 Rocky peaks, 29 Emanation, 32 March time?, 35 Indiana city, 36 Weight allowance, 37 Ram's mate, 38 Sanctions, 40 Lascivious, 42 Mr. Durocher. DOWN: 1 All there, 2 Take on, 3 Antelope of puzzledom, 4 Capt. Kirk's musings, 5 Bahamas tourist town, 6 State, 7 Country estate, 8 Dockworkers' org., 9 Height, 10 — the line (conformed), 11 Tackles, 12 Rarin' to go, 18 Pre-cable TV attachments, 21 Half-of-Famer Mel, 23 — de, 24 Sixth sense, 25 "Downed", 26 Displaced violently, 28 Used the answering machine, 30 Crude, 31 Favorable vote, 33 Diving bird, 34 Where to go "in iliac time", 39 "Full House" cast member, 41 Parlor piece, 42 Privation, 43 Art Deco artist, 45 Sheet of stamps, 47 Domesticated, 48 "Moon-struck" star, 49 Day off: abbr., 51 Zsa Zsa's sis, 53 Blackbird.

Cryptogram puzzle grid with letters E F Q A Y A F V H I N V S C D R Z H Z Q N F D R S N E A Q R H H N F C S A V R A K R Z Y I K D Z Y I K B Z N B Z Y I K.

CRYPTOQUIP Yesterday's Cryptogram: SCULPTOR IS SENTENCED TO PRISON — HE CHISELED CLIENTS. Today's Cryptogram clue: Y equals C. The Cryptogram 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.