

Koshy halts Reefat's run

MADRAS, Apr 21: IM V Koshy halted Reefat-bin-Sattar's winning spree by holding him to a draw in the fifth round of the Asian zonal chess championship being played here, reports PTI.

Moeller axed from nat'l squad

FRANKFURT, Germany, Apr 21: Andreas Moeller was dropped from Germany's national team roster for next week's European Championship qualifying game against Wales after being banned and fined by the German Soccer Federation Thursday, reports AP.

Borussia Dortmund's midfielder was banned for two games and fined 10,000 marks (dhs 7,200) for taking a dive that resulted in a penalty and a goal for his team.

Ethiopian athletes banned for seeking asylum

LONDON, Apr 21: Three Ethiopian women athletes, who are seeking political asylum in Britain, have been banned by their national Federation from competing in an international road race in London on Sunday, officials said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Shivaki v'ball

The four-day Shivaki women's volleyball tournament, organised by the Bangladesh Women Sports Federation, began at the Dhanmondi Women Sports Complex, reports UNB.



Ajax Amsterdam's Patrick Kluyvert (C) hugs assistant coach Bobby Haarms after the final whistle of the European Champions' League semifinal second leg clash against Bayern Munich in Amsterdam on April 19. Smiling in the background is Kluyvert's teammate Frank Rijkaard. Ajax won 5-2.

Juve poised for Grand Slam

ROME, Apr 21 (AP): Only Parma stand between Juventus and an unprecedented sweep of three championships this year, and striker Roberto Baggio is taking charge at the right time.

The 1993 Golden Ball award winner has been criticised in the Italian media and by Juventus team owner Giovanni Agnelli for failing to return the club to the heights they reached in their storied past.

Bayern play down Klinsmann rumour

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ACOG's rude awaking

CONYERS, Georgia, Apr 21: A routine security training session at the 1996 Olympic equestrian centre southeast of Atlanta took on new meaning, because of the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, reports AP.

Deportivo bank on Valencia

MADRID, Apr 21: Deportivo need help. And they are hoping Valencia can provide it. Six points behind league leaders Real Madrid with eight rounds remaining, Deportivo can't expect to overtake Real on their own.

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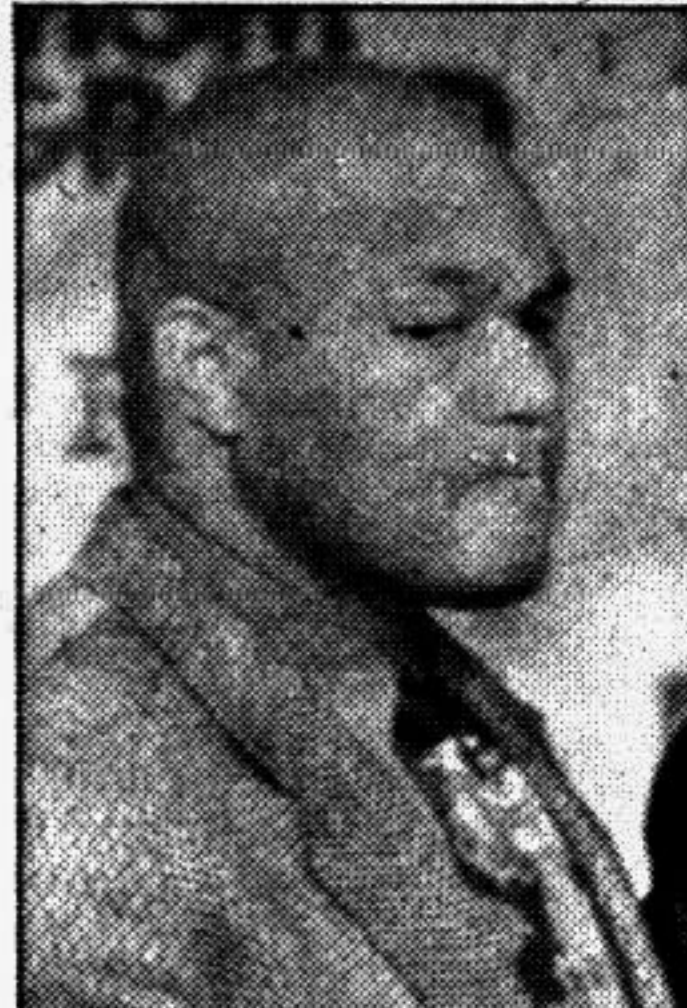
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Schulz in Foreman's world

LAS VEGAS, Apr 21: George Foreman on Saturday night will take Axel Schulz to a world he has never been to — a heavyweight championship fight, reports Reuter.

Even if the German's anaemic 21-1-1 record against the dimmer lights of the boxing profession is not enough to make him the subterranean underdog to take away Foreman's the neon capital of the world might be. This is Foreman's town.



GEORGE FOREMAN

Foreman came to this capital of long-shots in 1987 as a fat, old, joke of a washed-up fighter looking for a few more paydays.

He left it last November, maybe not much slimmer, certainly not any younger, but a glittering hero to anyone who has ever dreamed.

And it can be assumed the cheers for the old guy that will rock the MGM Grand's Arena from the cheap seats to the chairs at ringside will not take the knocking out of Schulz's knees.

Everyone — Schulz, too — remembers the night that the former heavyweight champion of the world became the new and at 46, the oldest heavyweight champion ever with a short, right hand to the face of

Michael Moorer. Schulz, 26, has to remember the sudden destruction wrought by the punching preacher, and he also must realise that it was against the reigning heavyweight champion, not a fighter who fought all but two of his bouts in Germany.

"Once you get into the ring and that bell rings it turns into a whole another world that operates on itself," Foreman said. "You just never know what's going to happen."

"I've been doing this since 1966. It's been a mysterious world. I wish I had some control over it, but it seems to control you," said Foreman who first won the title in 1973, and lost it the next year to Muhammad Ali.

Axel Schulz is going to jump into that ring for the heavyweight championship of the world and he'll be over-taken by a strange force that carries you and makes you do things you don't even know what you're doing. I'm accustomed to being driven and passed around by that force."

Foreman is also accustomed to using that force for his own designs, like a trigger in that short right hand that needs to travel only about 12 inches (30 cm) before those 256 pounds (116 kg) behind it provide the after-shock.

"He's never been in a championship fight before," Foreman said earlier this week. "He's going to find out that it's like no place he's ever been before."

"I've been doing this since 1966, and I know you think you are going to do this and that, but once you step into a ring you are stepping into a world that sort of operates on its own," said Foreman, a 6 1/2-1 favourite.

"You can't control it. Instead, it controls you. It can make you do strange things. Axel is going to jump into that ring and find out," said the 73-4 Foreman, being paid 10 million dollars to fight Schulz, who is getting 500,000 dollars.

At 6'4" (1.93 metres) Schulz is the same height as Foreman and at 221 pounds

(100.24 kg) he is 35 pounds (15.8 kg) lighter. Among Schulz's best boxing attributes seem to be that he is respectful soft-spoken and very glad to be here fighting for the "biggest title in the world."

"I'm looking forward to that fight," Schulz said. "I think I will give everything to make sure that the title goes to Germany."

Schulz fought to a draw against Henry Akinwande in Berlin in 1992 for the European title and lost to him the next year. Schulz once was the German heavyweight champion but gave it up.

Schulz has fought outside Germany only twice, won a 10-round decision against former heavyweight champion James "boncrusher" Smith last September in Germany.

Of course Smith, 42, may have had other things on his mind when he fought Schulz, such as a promise to become the German's sparring partner for 5,000 dollars a week for three weeks and a contract for a title fight if Schulz beats Foreman.

But Foreman will not have such pocket change on his mind on Saturday. "Being a puncher you always look for a knockout," Foreman said. "That's something you do instinctively."

ties, organizers of the 1994 Winter Olympics lament that some people, especially Norwegian businessmen, didn't make the most from the Games afterward.

"We wanted to remind these people of the wonderful exposure Norway got as a result of the Olympics," said Lillehammer Mayor Audun Tron about the conference.

"After the Olympics, everyone went their separate ways," Tron said. "We needed to round up the flock. Not to make any specific plan, but just to get them talking again."

The Olympics were Norway's national obsession. The country of 4.3 million people spared no expense in building stunning venues. Much of the world remembers images of the friendly, flag-waving crowds, the beautiful scenery and perfect weather.

But Norway wanted more from the Games than a 16-day, dhs 1 billion party, most of it paid by the government. "Yes, one of the goals was to organize a sports event. But the main purpose was to get a higher level of activity, higher employment, more self-confidence and more hope for the future," said Gerhard Heiberg, former president of the organizing committee.

Heiberg complained that Norwegian business hasn't followed through. Others, including some of the businesses, complain that Norway's efficient organization vanished with the Games. What was left was a hodgepodge of regional and national organizations struggling to promote tourism and use the good name built by the Games to increase exports.

Lillehammer revisited

LILLEHAMMER, Norway, Apr 21 (AP): They said it over and over: "The best Winter Olympics ever." The phrase almost became a chant at a one-day conference in Lillehammer Wednesday about ways cities can get more from the Olympics once the Games are over.

"If that spirit could be bottled ... and then distributed to each of the future Olympic cities, the future success of the Olympics would be guaranteed," said Neal Nilson of the US television network CBS.

Organizers of the 1994 Winter Olympics summoned more than 100 of the country's top government and business leaders to the conference to try recapture the sense of national purpose and cooperation that made the Lillehammer Games virtually perfect.

In the years leading up to the Games, Norwegians often bickered over the expense and the sites for the venues. But, when it counted, they pulled together.

"In a country where each of us tends to be an individualist, cooperation was perhaps the greatest lesson we learned," said Minister of Culture Aase Kleivland.

But in a lesson for other cities, organizers of the 1994 Winter Olympics lament that some people, especially Norwegian businessmen, didn't make the most from the Games afterward.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution time of 26 minutes and a word bank at the bottom.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with numbers 1-30 indicating letter positions for a substitution cipher.

CRYPTOQUIP M U A A F C L H G C K T G C I K V T H C U V Y L U C N G I A G E L K M K S G G N H S K V Y G E Saturday's Cryptoquip: MAGICIAN TURNED PHOTOGRAPHER MIGHT TRADE IN HIS HOCUS-FOCUS FOR FOCUS. Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals G 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.