

### Superstar stigma!

SEOUL, Sept 25 (AP)—South Korea hoped to bolster its bid to be chosen host for the 2002 World Cup with promotions by soccer superstar Diego Maradona.

Instead, officials are faced with outraged fans, sulking children and a bill for about 1.75 million dollars.

For Maradona's nine-day visit, South Korea's Football Association had planned elaborate events, including a coaching clinic for children, an autograph session and a tour of a car factory.

All three were cancelled. Sunday, hundreds of angry fans protested loudly when Maradona, after a two-hour delay, dropped the coaching session for children at an amusement park.

A leading sports daily said Maradona had decided en route that he would rather practice, and ordered the car to turn around.

"Children's dreams crushed by fickleness," the newspaper Ilgan Sports reported.

The previous day, some 1,000 fans who had waited in the rain for an hour at Seoul's main train station for the superstar's autograph were disappointed when he left after performing tricks for just 10 minutes.

His Tuesday trip to Hyundai's automotive plant was also cancelled. Hyundai is a major Backer of South Korea's bid against Japan to play host to the world soccer tournament.

Criticism against Maradona, as well as soccer officials, was also mounting because South Korea is obliged to pay even though scheduled events were canceled.

"It was an understanding that he would take part in promotional activities, but it's not part of the contract or anything," said a Korea Football Association official, who asked that her name not be used because she was so embarrassed.

In South Korea, an oral agreement is considered just as important as a written contract. Even unspecified obligations are taken seriously, and not following through results in a loss of "face and credibility."

"He said he wanted more time to practice for the game, and we can't exactly force him to do anything he doesn't want to," the Football Association officials said.

The highlight of the Sept. 28-Oct. 1 visit is a game between his Boca Juniors and South Korea's national team, Maradona's first since being banned for using stimulants at the 1994 World Cup finals 15 months ago.

Reports have said he is being paid 1.75 million dollars for the 2002 World Cup bidding committee and state-owned KBS Television for the visit and game.

### A historic humiliation!

KOTA KINABALU, Malaysia, Sept 25: Defending champions China opened their campaign in the 10th Asian Women's football championship with a 21-0 demolition of the inexperienced Philippines in a Group A match Sunday, reports AFP.

The Chinese, fancied to retain the title for the fifth consecutive time, settled down to the wet pitch quickly and skipper Sun Wen opened accounts in the second minute.

The rout became obvious when Fan Chunling added the second goal a minute later, and by halftime, they were ahead by eight goals. Sun Wen and Fan scored a hat-trick each.

With left-winger Zaho Lihong spraying accurate passes into the box from the flanks, substitutes Wei Haiying and Shi Guihong netted five times each after coming in at the start of the second-half.

Zhao scored one goal in the 76th minute and was later named most valuable player of the match. Li Yating was on target twice while Chen Yufeng and Shui Qingxia scored one goal each.

At a post-match press conference, China's head coach Ma Yuannan said he told his players to go all out despite knowing their opponents were inexperienced. He said China was keen to promote women's football and as such could not afford to take it easy.

His demoralised Philippines counterpart Sherlock Cordova said the defeat was the biggest yet in the tournament since it started in 1975.

While debutantes Kazakhstan and Hong Kong played to a scoreless draw in a Group A match here Sunday.

The Kazakh team were obviously the better side with skipper Lioussina Irima leading the attack.

### Rain Pakistan's only remedy

## Stage set for SL win

SIALKOT, Sept 25: Sri Lanka edged closer to victory in their three-Test series when their bowlers battered and ripped through Pakistan's batting order Monday, leaving the home team struggling, at 99 for six on the fourth day of their series-deciding final Test here, report agencies.

At stumps, Sri Lanka skipper Arjuna Ranatunga was just four wickets away from becoming the third captain this century to win a three-Test series after losing the opening match.



A RANATUNGA ... 87

Wickets fell like pins, as Pakistan lost five top batsmen on 15 within minutes after starting their second innings to chase an uphill winning target of 357 runs set by Sri Lanka.

With six wickets down for 99 at close and a full day still remaining in the match at the Jinnah Stadium, only rain or a cricket miracle could save the match for Pakistan, commentators said.

Sri Lanka made 232 in their first innings and contained Pakistan to 214, gaining an 18-run lead. The tourists declared their second innings at 338 for nine just before tea today.

Thanks to Wickremasinghe and Vaas, Sri Lanka were unshakably poised to score a historic series win in Pakistan, the World Cup holders — which will be the island nation's second win abroad after defeating New Zealand in March.

Pakistan's top order batsmen failed miserably and batted recklessly. At the outset they lost five wickets with the total on just 15 in 59 minutes.

Chaminda Vaas claimed the wickets of Shoib Mohammad, Inzamam-ul-Haq and Zahid Fazal in 24 balls.

Pramodya Wickremasinghe chipped in with the wicket of captain Rameez Raja and opener Aamir Sohail. Basil Ali and Moin Khan's resistance lasted

for 104 minutes before Ali was spectacularly caught at short fine leg by Kumara Dharmasena off left-arm pacesman Vaas.

The islanders, who resumed their second innings at the overnight total of 177 for four, made their intentions clear from the very first over by building up their total at a fast pace.

Pakistan's skipper took the new ball in the second over of the day, but Ranatunga played with authority and hit some delightful strokes. Aamir Sohail, who bowled only six overs with the ball was hit for three consecutive boundaries by the Sri Lankan skipper.

Although Mohammed Akram bowled overnight batsman Chamara Dunusinge at the total of 206, Ranatunga and stylish left-handed middle-order batsman Hashan Tilakaratne added 57 runs for sixth wicket in 71 minutes the tourists scored 97 runs in the first session and went for lunch at 264 for five.

Ranatunga, who looked well set on 87 at lunch for his fifth Test century, was brilliantly caught by Inzamam in the very first over after the interval.

Ranatunga tried to cut Akram, but Inzamam dived towards his left and took perhaps one of the best catches of the series so far.

Ranatunga's superb innings contained 10 boundaries as he added 52 to his overnight total of 36 off just 76 deliveries.

Tilakaratne and Chaminda Vaas added quick fire 59 runs in just over an hour's time.

Tilakaratne had just reached 50 when he was bowled by left-arm Aamir Sohail for 50. Tilakaratne departed at the total of 338 and Vaas was run out at the very same total before Ranatunga declared.

When stumps were drawn wicketkeeper Moin Khan remained the only hope for Pakistan to add some respectability to their crumbling innings. He was still at the crease with a defiant 46 with Aaqub Javed not out on five.

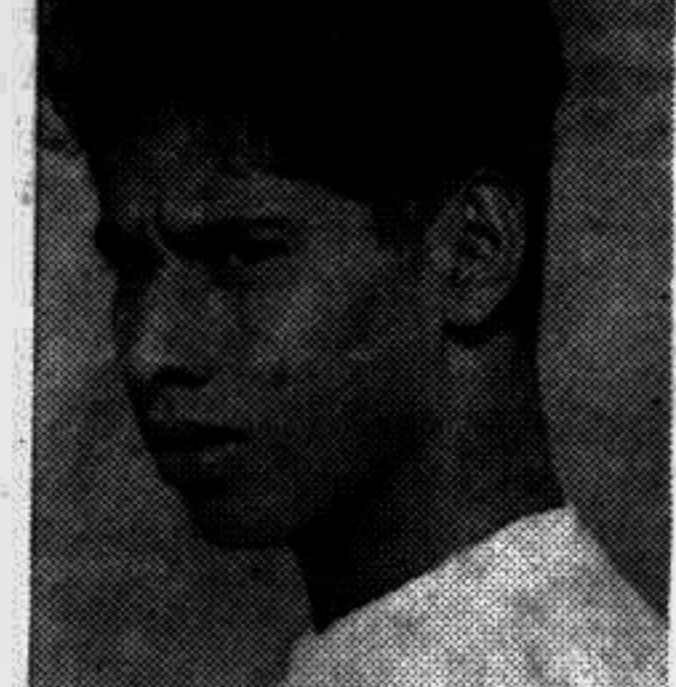
The visitors started poorly in the three-match series when they were beaten by an innings in the first Test at Peshawar on September 12. But they bounced back, as predicted by skipper Ranatunga, winning the second match at Faisalabad.

Pakistan entered the crucial Test weakened by injury problems. Their top pacer Waqar Younis pulled out after the first Test and the situation worsened when shoulder problems ruled out their

livewire, Wasim Akram. To cap the difficulties, debutant spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, who claimed nine wickets in the first two Tests, had to bow out because of a knee-injury, leaving sole spinner, Aamir Sohail, in the team which had to rely heavily on pacers.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the third and final cricket Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka today:



VAAS ... 4 for 16

SRI LANKA: First innings 232 (Dharmasena 62 not out) PAKISTAN: First innings 214 (Murallidharan four for 72) SRI LANKA: Second innings (overnight 177 for four)

Table with columns: Player, Runs, Wickets, Overs

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### Lewis lashes Illingworth

LONDON, Sept 25: England's discarded all-rounder Chris Lewis hit out at chairman of selectors Ray Illingworth on Sunday while announcing he had agreed to join Surrey from Nottinghamshire, reports Reuter.

The fast-medium bowler and lower-order batsman, who played the last of his 27 Tests against Australia in February, said he believed Illingworth had expelled him from the England set-up too soon.

Lewis, who rejected offers from Durham and Essex, missed all of Nottinghamshire's first-class matches this season with a hip injury.

He told Britain's Mail on Sunday newspaper: "Given another chance by England I'd be more of my own man. The pressure got to me in my early 20s. I worried too much. I wouldn't now. I want to play with a smile."

"What's up with Ray Illingworth? Why doesn't he come and see Chris Lewis instead of talking to TV commentators and newspapers about me?"

"I'm probably the best England all-rounder in the country and he never talks to me, nor do his selectors. I've seen them at Trent Bridge. None of them have bothered to ask me about the injury and my hopes of getting back into the England side."

Lewis has scored 1,009 runs at an average of 24.02 in his 27 Tests and taken 77 wickets at 37.27.

### UEFA rejects Kiev's appeal

GENEVA, Sept 25: UEFA rejected an appeal from Eynamo Kiev on Sunday and upheld an earlier decision to disqualify the team from European competition for match-fixing, reports AP.

The UEFA appeal council met for six hours before announcing that it was rejecting an appeal from the Ukrainians to reverse last week's penalty.

Dynamo Kiev were expelled from the European Champions' League and from European tournaments for two years for trying to bribe the referee in their game on Sept. 13 against Greece's Panathinaikos.

UEFA found Dynamo officials had tried unsuccessfully to bribe Spanish referee Antonio Lopez Nieto in the Group A game which was won in Kiev 1-0 by the Ukrainians. Nieto told UEFA that two Dynamo representatives offered him two fur coats worth 30,000. Dynamo contend Nieto was trying to save face after not being able to pay for fur coats he had delivered to his hotel room before the match.

After hearing from Nieto, UEFA expelled Dynamo and also banned club officials Vasily Babichuk and Ihor Surkis for life from any UEFA-related activity.

Officials from the club, accompanied by a German lawyer, appealed to a five-man appeals commission of UEFA at an hotel in Geneva.

Georgia's Dynamo Tbilisi was expelled for trying to bribe a linesman and a referee before the preliminary round Champion's Cup match against Linfield two years ago.

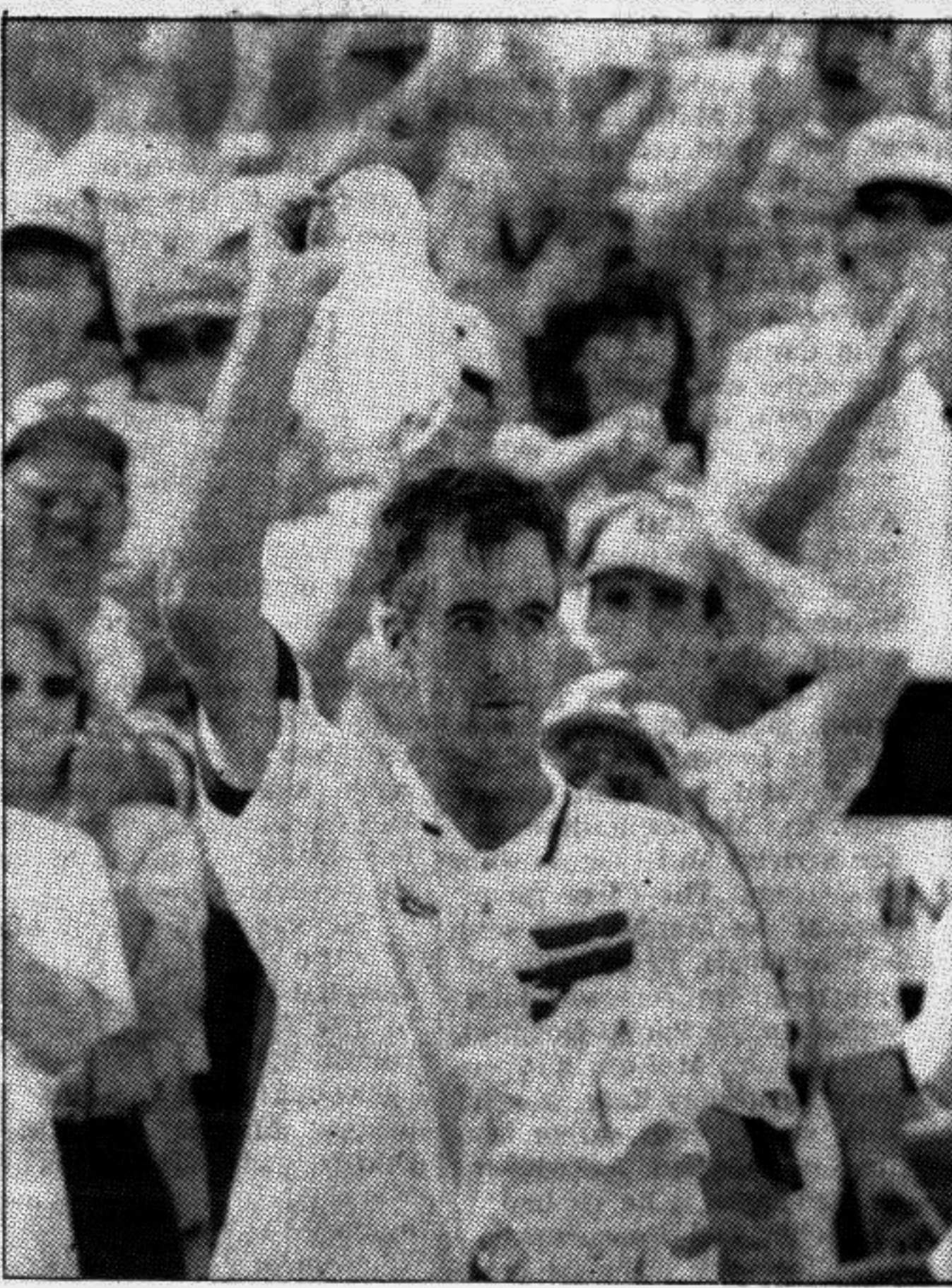
### Swedish hopes shattered

LAS VEGAS, Sept 25: Todd Martin replaced an injured Andre Agassi and beat Sweden's Thomas Enqvist in straight sets Sunday to win the Davis Cup semifinal for the United States, reports agencies.

Gullikson that he might have to play. But he went to bed Saturday night still not sure about Agassi's status.

"I was in limbo," said Martin, who got the final world he would play only 90 minutes before the match. "After I took a fair beating at the casino tables, I figured I'd better get prepared for it in case I played. Of course, I didn't have any money left."

Martin, the world's 19th-ranked player, took advantage of some crucial mistakes by Enqvist late in the first and second sets to turn the



Todd Martin of the United States, a last minute inclusion following the withdrawal of top seed Andre Agassi, acknowledges the crowd after his upset 7-5, 7-5, 7-6 (7-2) win over eighth-ranked Thomas Enqvist of Sweden during a semifinal match of the Davis Cup in Las Vegas, Nevada, on September 24.

cheering, flag-waving crowd at the outdoor court at Caesars Palace.

"It's the best feeling I've had in the game of tennis," Martin said after becoming the unlikely hero of a team stacked with the top two players in the world.

Agassi, who had hoped to provide the deciding win before his hometown fans, had to content instead with a court-side seat and tender hugs from girlfriend Brooke Shields as Martin gave the US team an insurmountable 3-1 lead.

Agassi, who pulled a muscle on the right side of his chest in Friday's win over Mats Wilander, woke up Sunday to find the injury worse and decided he could not play.

"It's disappointing because you want to go out there and play," Agassi said. "We all felt confident in Todd. He's a great back-up singles player."

Martin, who was on the losing side in Saturday's doubles match, was told after the match by US captain Tom

day's second match between Pete Sampras and Mats Wilander into nothing more than an exhibition.

Down 5-4 in the first set, Martin fought off two set points, one on a disputed call, to pull even. He broke Enqvist in the second game, then captured the set when the Swede netted a return of serve.

The scenario nearly repeated itself in the second set, as Martin took advantage of a double-fault by Enqvist with the games tied 5-5 before serving up a backhand winner to break his serve.

"A lot of good things happened at the right time early," Martin said. "I think that got him a little deflated."

With the sun-baked crowd of 11,503 going wild between points, Martin avoided another set point against an increasingly tentative Enqvist to tie the third set 6-6. He quickly opened up a 3-1 lead in the tie-breaker, finally capturing the match with a backhand that nestled just inside the line.

"He served very well and I had a lot of chances, but I didn't take them," Enqvist said.

Martin, who had lost the deciding match to Sweden in last year's semifinal, threw his racket high in the air and hugged Gullikson and Agassi. He then buried his face in a towel, crying tears of joy.

"I guess I got my second chance," Martin said. "It was certainly my highest moment in tennis."

The win put the United States in the finals beginning Dec 1 in Russia, which came back from a 2-0 deficit to win the final three matches and stun Germany in the other semifinal.

It is the first Davis Cup final for the United States since 1992, when Agassi, Sampras and John McEnroe teamed up to beat Switzerland in the final.

"I am kind of in a sense, glad, we are playing Russia, because we never played them before and Germany has been around a long time and I think it is going to be an exciting final," Agassi said.

Agassi, who will take a couple weeks off to mend his pulled muscle, said both he and Sampras planned to play in the finals.

"I have never been to Moscow, so hopefully it will be a great week," he said.

Martin, meanwhile, isn't even guaranteed a spot on the team in the finals despite his heroics for the US team.

Martin and Jonathan Stark lost in the doubles competition on Saturday, and Gullikson could decide to use another doubles competition on combination against the Russian team. And, with Agassi and Sampras playing singles, he has no shot at one of those spots.

"I just hope Jonathan and I will get another chance," Martin said.

In World Group play-off ties, Leander Paes, ranked 124th in the world, stunned world number six Goran Ivanisevic 6-7(4-7), 4-6, 7-6(7-3), 6-4, 6-1, to lead India to a 3-2 victory over Croatia.

Former holders Australia were bundled out of the World Group with a 2-3 loss to Hungary. Jozsef Krocsko beat Mark Philippoussis in the deciding match.

Mexico rejoined the Davis Cup elite group for the first time in four years with a 3-2 victory over Spain. Luis Enrique Herrera beat Alberto Berasategui in the decider.

At Caracas, Denmark's Kenneth Carlsson and Fred. Erick Fetterlein won both of the closing singles to post a 3-2 comeback victory, ending Venezuela's hopes of reaching the World Group for the first time.

Petr Korda and Bohdan Ulihrach won both reverse singles for the Czech Republic in Prague to defeat Zimbabwe 4-1. Switzerland also finished off a 4-1 victory over New Zealand on Sunday, while France completed a 5-0 white wash of Morocco and Belgium blanked Norway 5-0 in Oslo.

### Indians suffer slugfest

BERLIN, Sept 25: India, back at the scene of their greatest triumph, crashed to their heaviest defeat for four years on the second day of the Champion's Trophy on Sunday, losing 6-2 to Australia, reports Reuter.

It was in this same Olympic hockey stadium that India beat Germany 8-1 in the 1936 Olympic final.

But their defeat on Sunday was their heaviest since they lost 6-0, also to Australia, in 1991.

The speed of Australia's forwards troubled the Indians and left them 2-0 behind at half time after goals by Stephen Davies and Mark Hager.

Australia were coasting to victory when Jay Stacy added a third in the 40th minute.

But India staged a recovery to cut the deficit to 3-2 with goals by Rabul Singh on a penalty corner and Dhanraj Pillay.

Then Davies snapped up two more goals in a minute to complete his hat-trick and Darren Duff added Australia's sixth following up a shot by Davies.

Two of Davies' goals came from penalty corner flick shots. India, who held Germany to a goalless draw on the first day, had more corners than Australia — 8-7 — but their drill was poor and they managed only one goal from them.

### GERMANS DRUB DUTCH

Outstanding play by Carsten Fischer, the German defender making a comeback, helped his country end a sequence of five draws against great rivals the Netherlands with a 3-0 victory in the day's second match.

Fischer scored Germany's first two goals with vintage corner shot and played a commanding role in defence to deny the Dutch a second win in the tournament.

Fischer scored in the 22nd and 54th minutes and almost got a third.

The other goal, on the hour, came when Seven Meinhardt hit an opportunist rising shot through a crowded circle at a German free hit in the 60th minute.

Germany's win was their 50th over the Dutch in 103 matches, 20 of which have been drawn.

Only a miss by Chris Mayer, England's lively right winger who lobbed just over the bar, and a brilliant low save by Pakistan goalkeeper Mansoor Ahmad from Calum Giles denied England an equaliser as they forced two late corners in a grandstand finish.

### PAKISTAN JOIN CRICKETER DEAD

LONDON, Sept 25: Worcestershire's 24-year-old fast bowler Parvaz Mirza died suddenly at home in Birmingham on Sunday, club officials said, reports AFP.

Parvaz played in five championship matches in the recent English county season and played in his side's final Sunday League game against Glamorgan last weekend.

A Worcestershire statement said: "The cause of his death is not yet known but as far as the club is aware he had been in good health and had not been ill recently."

Parvaz joined Worcestershire in 1993 and made his first class debut a year later.

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### Russia give Germany hell

MOSCOW, Sept 25: Given new life by an injury to Boris Becker, Russia surged past Germany and into the Davis Cup final Sunday on an improbable comeback capped by Andrei Chesnokov's wrenching five-set upset of Michael Stich, reports AP.

Chesnokov, a clay-court specialist but decided underdog to Stich, fended off a remarkable nine match points as Stich served for the match at 7-6 in the final set. He went on to win 6-4, 1-6, 1-6, 6-3, 14-12, to send Russia into the final for the second straight year in quest of their first Davis Cup title.

Russia's 3-2 victory in the best-of-five sent the indoor Olympic Stadium crowd of over 10,000 into a cheering frenzy.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov set up the dramatic last-match showdown by easily disposing of Bernd Karbacher. Becker's last-minute replacement, 6-1, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2.

It marked only the fifth time a team had won in Davis Cup World Group play after trailing 2-0. Sweden accomplished the same feat against the United States in last year's semifinals.

The Russians, last year's runners up, will play the US-Sweden winner on Dec 1-3. The Russians were still facing long odds in the last match behind Chesnokov, who had won only three sets in his last four meetings against Stich — all on a clay surface similar to that used in Olympic Stadium.

at love after breaking Stich's serve to go up 5-4.

Stich began moving and serving better and broke Chesnokov's serve five times in the next seven sets, appearing on the way to an easy victory.

But Chesnokov, belting two-handed backhands from the baseline, battled back to take the fourth set. Then, after losing his serve to move to the brink of elimination in the fifth set, he fought off match point after match point — many on errors by the clearly tired Stich. Nearly an hour later, after his opponent also had saved two match points, Stich hit a shot long and Chesnokov had prevailed in 4 hours, 18 minutes.

Chesnokov, 29 and ranked 59th in the world, called his match "the most memorable and exciting match of my career."

Neither could take the advantage until the 26th game of the set, with Stich double-faulted to give Russia game, set, match and the tie.

"I told myself 'fight, fight, fight, it is not over yet,'" said Chesnokov. "I was very tired but I got tremendous support from the crowd."

Becker, the world's No 4 player, was in position to clinch Germany's fourth appearance in the final in eight years — the first with erstwhile rivals Becker and Stich playing together.

on the soggy, uneven surface was "like jogging on the beach."

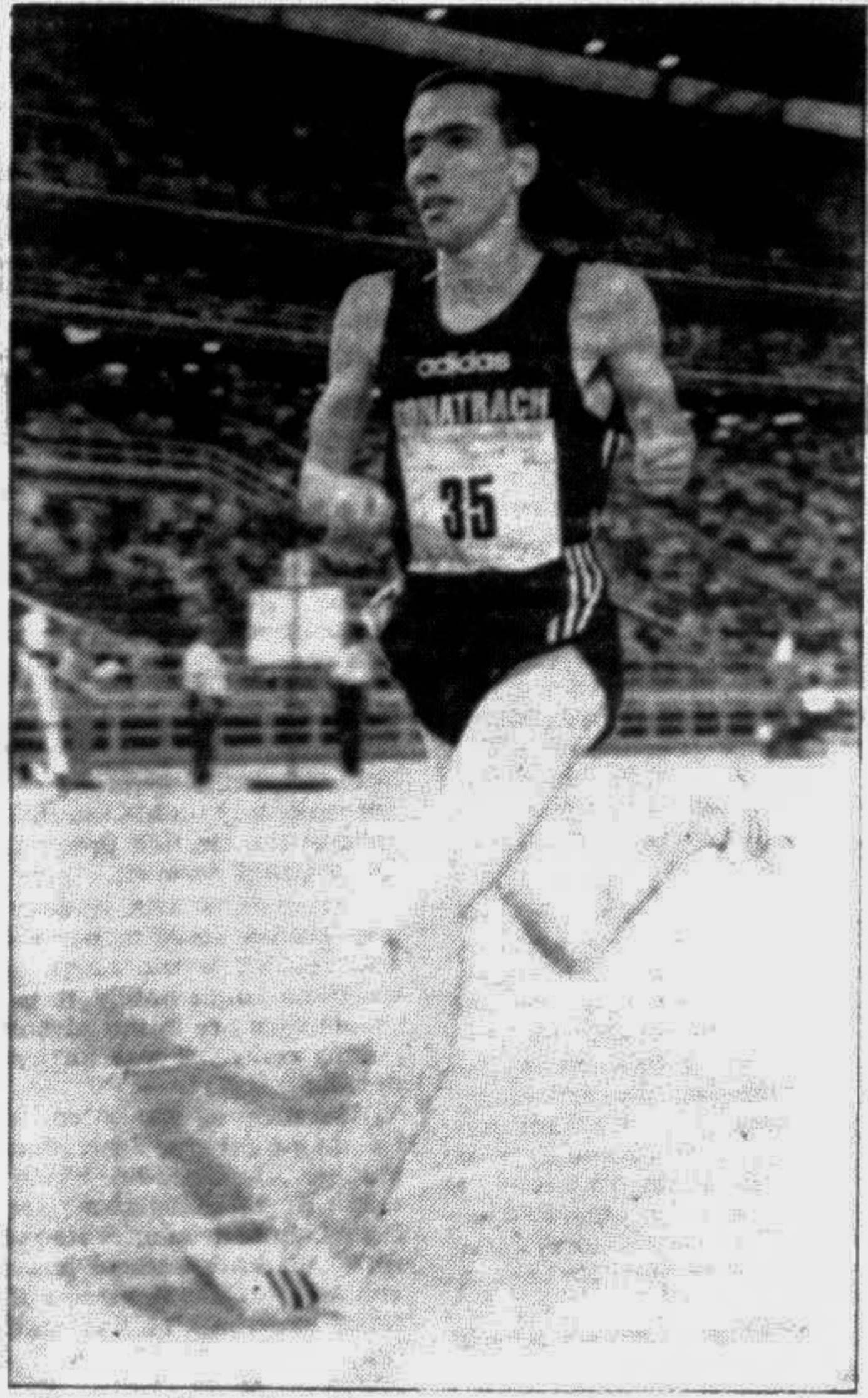
Facing the prospect of another gruelling match against the sixth-ranked Kafelnikov, team captain Nikki Pilic made the decision to replace Becker with Karbacher, rated 31st in the world.

Karbacher had beaten the 21-year-old Kafelnikov in straight sets the last time they played, on a hard court in Cincinnati this year. But Kafelnikov quickly showed his superiority in racing through the first set. It was only Karbacher's third Davis Cup match; Kafelnikov, including doubles, has played 24.

"It was an advantage for me to play Karbacher," Kafelnikov said. "He felt the pressure, and you could see that from the very beginning of the match."

Karbacher, staying on the baseline but playing steadily, had a good chance in the second set after breaking Kafelnikov's serve to go up 3-3. But the Russian broke right back when Karbacher netted a backhand to end a minute-long rally.

In the tie-breaker, with Becker cheering him on from court side, Karbacher held his own with the powerful Kafelnikov. But at 5-5, the Russian bashed home a winner at the net. Then Karbacher, after the ring of a court side cellular phone interrupted his serve at set point, knocked a forehand long, flinging his racket to the backstop in disgust.



Algerian Nouredine Morceli runs all alone towards the finish line to capture 1500-metre gold in the All-African invitational athletics meet in Johannesburg on September 24. The master miler was 30-metre ahead of his nearest challenger when he crossed the line with a timing of three minutes and 39.01 seconds.