Graf, McNeil

in final

12: World co-number one St-

effi Graf breezed to victory

while unseeded American

Lori McNeil edged defending

champion Anke Huber here

Saturday to reach the final of

the Advanta Championships,

American Zina Garrison-

Jackson 6-1, 6-3 while Mc-

Neil ousted reigning cham-

pion Anke Huber of Germany

6-4, 6-7, (1-7), 7-6 (12-10)

in a 2 and a half hours

finalist here at the 806,250-

dollar event with a career

victory over Graf, having

ousted her from Wimbledon

reached the finals here for

the third time in four years.

She defeated Arantxa

Sanchez-Vicario in the 1992

final but lost to Conchita

nal tune-up event for next

week's WTA Tour Champi-

onship at Madison Square

title since the US Open .. fi-

nals triumph over Monica Se-

les and her second since the

tax scandal involving her fa-

This would be Grafs first

The tournament is the fi-

Martinez in 1993.

Garden in New York.

Graf, 42-2 this year,

McNeil was the only semi-

Graf defeated unseeded

reports AFP.

thriller.

in 1994.

PHILADELPHIA, USA, Nov

Pakistanis in crosswind



resume battle to save the first

Australia on Monday, are likely to be without senior batsman Salim Malik whose injured hand is not healing quickly enough, report agencies.

The troubled Malik, whose tour has been overshadowed by a lingering bribery scandal, had six stitches in a deep gash in the webbing between his left thumb and index finger after catching Australian captain Mark Taylor on the first day.

He did not bat in Pakistan's humiliating first innings 97 after Australia had amassed a formidable 463.

Tour manager Intikhab Alam was pessimistic about Malik's chances of batting when Pakistan resume their second innings on 197 for three after Sunday's rest day. still needing 169 to make the home side bat again.

"The progress he has made in two days is very good but all we can do is wait. I doubt very much whether he'll be able to bat in the sechold a bat in the hand," Intikhab said.

Former captain Malik. making his return to Test clicket after being sidelined for eight months, said he had not given up the prospect of playing and would do everything he could to try and save the match.

But he admitted he could not put his hand around the bat handle. "Apart from the stitches there is much bruising but I will do all I can to help my side. I would even bat with a broken hand if necessary."

Australians are painfully aware of Malik's capabilities. In last year's three-Test series, he totalled a remarkable 557 runs at an average of 92.83.

And it was his second innings 143 in the final Test in

leaving South Africa A 148 to

win on the final day of their

four-day match today, reports

470-9 declared: England 308

other dose of extraordinary

wrist spin from Paul Adams

left England facing a demor-

alising pre-Test defeat after

being made to follow on by

second innings from 97 for

one to 136 for four at the

close, still needing 26 runs

to make their opponents bat

out, and Robin Smith, who is

yet to bat, remain of the spe-

made sure England would not

enjoy their dinner when he

pinned Mark Ramprakash

lbw with the last ball of the

day, hurrying a chinaman on

to dismiss the Middlesex

mode throughout and hit just

Warwickshire

want Pollock

12: Natal's fast bowling all

rounder Shaun Pollock has

been approached by English

county champions Warwick-

shire with a view to replacing

countryman Allan Donald as

the county's overseas pro-

fessional in 1996, reports

The 22-year-old Pollock

son of famous Springbok fast

bowler Peter and nephew of

great left hander Grame.

spoke to the county's coach

Phill Neale on Saturday dur-

"The prospect of county

Former Warwickshire

coach and current South

African national coach. Bob

Woolmer, recommended the

red-haired fast blower to his

former county several weeks

only benefit from a season of

Pollock is in South Africa's

squad of 12 for the first Test

against England at Centurion

Park starting on Thursday.

cricket is very exciting

although I haven't actually

been offered a contract yet

match against Boland.

said Pollock

career.

PAARL, South Africa, Nov

one four in 116-ball stay.

Ramprakash was in dour

Only Graeme Hick, 23 not

The 18-year-old Adams

England collapsed in their

Scores: South Africa A

Earlier on Saturday, an-

Reuter.

and 309.

South Africa A.

cialist batsmen.

player for 42.

Reuter

KIMBERLEY.

South Africa.

Nov 12: England

were dismissed

for 309 in their

second innings

BRISBANE, Nov Lahore which prevented Australia from squaring a series they lost 1-0.

Monday's challenge will be far greater for the veteran right-hander, because he has had so little cricket since he was sacked as captain earlier this year in the wake of the bribery claims by Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh.

The beleaguered Malik told an Australian newspaper last week he hated playing cricket at present and only decided to accept a tour spot



SALIM MALIK

ond innings ... he just can't because he did not want people to think he was sulking at home over the bribery charges

He has strenuously and repeatedly denied allegations he offered three Australian players to play poorly in Pakistan last year.

Malik was exonerated of the charges by an internal inquiry last month, clearing the way for Pakistan's selectors to resurrect his Test career. He was suspended from

the game during the inquiry. Ijaz Ahmed senior was due to arrive in Brisbane today to bolster the middle order batting after first choice Saeed Anwar failed to recover from typhoid.

If Malik is still unfit ljaz has a strong chance of replacing him in Hobart for the second Test which starts on Friday.

had fallen lbw to Steven Jack

for a duck in the first over of

the follow-on before Adams,

after a face saving stand of 95

between Alec Stewart and

Ramprakash, took centre

Four runs later Thorpe

charged at an Adams' deliv-

ery and swung wildly around

the ball to be stumped yards

batting failure of the match

and England's top order

looks decidedly shaky ahead

in deeper trouble but for a

masterly piece of batting

from Jack Russell in the first

shire wicketkeeper blasted

93 not out from 136 balls

with the remarkable total of

18 boundaries. He came in

when Atherton was trapped

Ibw by Lance Klusener and

was still there at the end hav-

ing seen none of the terrors

Robin Smith before Smith

fell to a brilliant diving catch

by wicketkeeper Steve Pal-

framan off the bowling of

Russell put on 44 with

The plucky Gloucester-

England would have been

of next week's first Test.

It was Thorpe's second

102 balls.

from home.

innings.

teammates.

Jacques Kallis

Pakistan's slim chance of saving the first Test in the final two days appears to rest with the last two fit recognised batsmen - Inzamamul Haq, who is on 56, and Basit Ali, who hammered two successive centuries against

South Australia on 11. Intikhab did not think they are on way to losing the match. "Nothing is impossible. I'm pleased the way we have batted in the second innings," he said.

"There are two days to go and I think both of them have the ability to stay at the wicket."

And Intikhab attempted to put Shane Warne's stunning first innings spell of seven for 23 in perspective.

"I don't want to take anything away from the legspinning but I don't think he got one of us out. We got ourselves out and gave them wickets.

"I have never seen such a terrible display of batting from this side," he said.

Taylor felt that Warne, who now has 183 wickets and is set to reach 200 in fewer than four years in Test cricket, had not performed at his peak. "Warne bowled well but

still I don't think he bowled at his best," Taylor said. Intikhab Alam, however,

said he believed Pakistan could escape with a draw.

"It is a tough one, of course, but if we apply ourselves anything is possible." he said.

Pakistan have not had much luck on this tour, but they may be about to get one break — a few showers. The weather bureau said

however, the rain was ex-

pected to cause only brief interruptions. Australia will be keen to wrap up the game Monday to earn an extra rest day before

the second Test. On a wearing pitch, Warne must again loom as a major

threat to Pakistan.

England head ignominy Skipper Mike Atherton

Ironically Smith, who was beginning to look good in an innings of 48, had just seen off bogeyman Adams' opening spell of six overs and fell to Kallis in the medium pacer's

stage again by dismissing Darren Gough hit some Stewart and Graham Thorpe. bold shots in his knock of 26. Stewart, who was dropped but gave his wicket away off Adams on 31, failed to when he left his crease to defend against the slow left clear John Commins at mid on and was caught for 56 arm of Nicky Boje and was after hitting nine fours in easily stumped.

Angus Fraser fell lbw to Kallis shortly afterwards and it was left to Russell to farm the strike with Devon Mal colm at the other end.

The pair added 46 and were insight of the follow on target of 321 when Adams who had Malcolm dropped twice, slipped through the fast bowlers defences to bowl him with a low full toss for

England had made 308 in reply to 470 for nine declared and Adams had figures of four for 65 from 28.3 overs. He took three more for

71 in the second innings. But even with three front line pace bowlers nursing injuries, the United Cricket Board on South Africa (UCBSA) are still denying that Adams is part of their in the attack that afflicted his Test plans.

UCB managing director Ali Bacher told the press. "It's most unlikely that Adams will be added to the squad for Centurion Park". The Test begins next Thursday in Pre-



Oops! Your ship is showing - British Formula One driver Damon Hill (C) has his zipper stuck at the wrong moment as all the drivers prepare to pose for a photo session in Adelaide on Nov 12 prior to the start of the Australian Grand Prix - AFP/UNB photo

Boetsch, Enqvist in Stockholm Open final

STOCKHOLM, Nov 12 Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch set up a final against second seed Thomas Enqvist of Sweden in the Stockholm Open tennis tournament on Saturday, report Reuter.

Boetsch, ranked 16th, overcame concentration problems and German opponent David Prinosil to win the semifinal by 6-1, 1-6, 7-

Enqvist, the fastest improving top player in men's tennis this season, humiliated American veteran Richey Reneberg 6-2, 6-1, in less than an hour in the evening semi final.

Boetsch, crowning the week his son was born, outplayed his opponent with pinpoint passing shots and topspin lobs in the first set.

But thoughts of his iveday old son Lucas sent him into a deep slump in the second set. "I played so perfect in the first set, but then I began to think of my son and suddenly I was completel, gone," Boetsch, 26. told a rews conference.

But he managed to regain composure in the third set and clinched the decisive service break after several mistakes from 71st ranked Prinosil, who upset American Jim Courier on Friday.

Boetsch has climbed to a career high 16th place in the rankings this autumn but has never played a final in an event of Stockholm's stature before.

Cash-strapped Cubans!

ATLANTA, Nov 12: Cuba cannot afford to send all 275 of its Olympic athletes and officials to Georgia next year for pre-Olympic training because of the cost of room and board, an Atlanta newspaper reported on Saturday, reports Reuter.

The Caribbean nation, cut off by a US economic embargo for more than three decades, could decide instead to send between 25 and 40 boxers, weightlifters and track and field athletes, the Atlanta journal-Constitution said.

The cost of a two-week pre-Games training period for the entire Cuban team would be over 100,000 dollars for rooms, meals and transportation at cut rate prices of 25 dollars a day.

"It's very expensive. I'll have to study this," the newspaper quoted Raul Villanueva Torres, vice-president of the Cuban sports ministry, as saying.

Torres was among a group of Cuban Olympic officials who visited Atlanta this week to inspect preparations for the 1996 Games and to pursue training-site negotiations with the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) The article said money

had been an issue for Cuban athletes since the 1989-cut off of Soviet assistance that once provided free training. room and board, and sports equipment.

Now Cubans train with worn-out hand-me-down equipment and rely on rice and beans to supplement scarce meat.

Atlanta officials recom mended the South Georgia city of Albany as a training site for the Cubans, because of the municipality's facilities for swimming, track and volleyball.

Torres asked whether Al bany would be prepared to render financial assistance to the Cuban team.

"The charity side of this has run real thin," the newspaper quoted Kim Goff of the Georgia Olympic training alliance as saying. Goff has matched national teams with 60 US communities for pre-Olympic training so far.

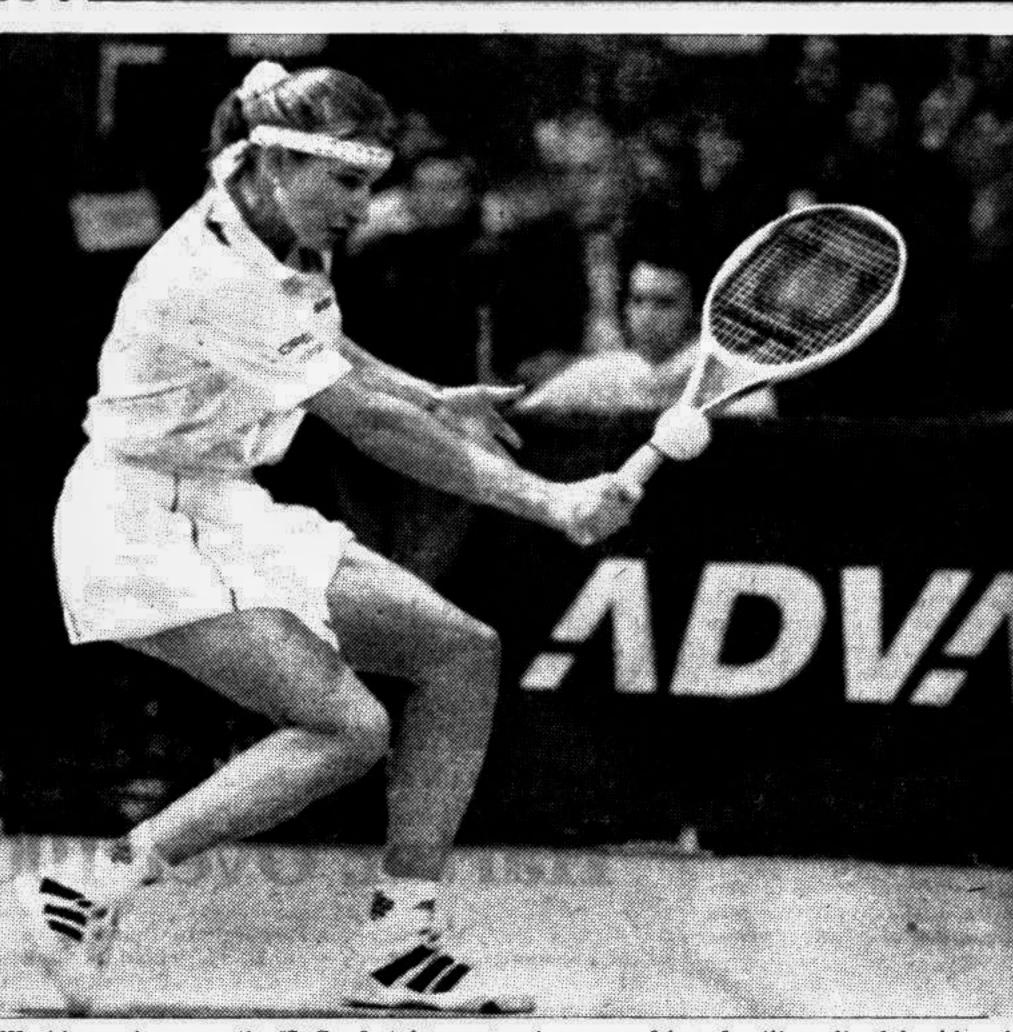
Havelange's humble praise

MOSCOW, Nov 12: Joao Havelange, president of world soccer's governing body FIFA, praised the quality of the Russian game on Mon day but said Moscow should not count on hosting the World Cup finals soon, reports Reuter.

"Russia is fully within its rights to make a bid to host soccer's World Cup," he said at a news conference during his first trip to the country in 10 years.

"But you have to take into account the fact that many national federations already support the idea of continents taking turns to host the finals," he added. Havelange, who was ac-

companied by FIFA's general secretary Joseph Blatter, met Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on Sunday and they discussed the possibility of Russia hosting the World Cup finals in 2006. Itar-Tass news agency said



World number one Steffi Graf right on to play one of her familiar sliced backhands against American veteran Zina Garrison-Jackson in the semifinals of the Advanta Championship in Philadelphia, USA, on Nov 11. Graf won 6-1, 6-3. - AFP/UNB photo ther broke in Germany.

"We're talking about it."

"He's really a nice person

doesn't

Roddan said via telephone

from England. "She rang Lin-

, but he's tough," Cuthbert

said of Christie's coaching

want any excuses and he

doesn't want anyone to

ford last week."

techniques. "He

RALEIGH, Nor-

th Carolina, Nov

12: British

Olympic sprint

champion Lin-

ford Christie is

helping top Jamaican female

sprinter Juliet Cuthbert to

prepare for the 1996 Atlanta

Games and may also assist

women's world 200-metre

champion Merlene Ottey.

bert, the 1992 Olympic run-

ner-up in both the women's

100 and 200 metres, said of

the faxes and telephone calls

from the Jamaican-born

Christie. "I've never lifted

this much weights in my life."

make a farewell athletics

tour in 1996 but insists his

Olympic sprinting days are

over, is also expected to

work with Ottey, the grand

dame of Jamaican sprinters.

as her coach," the Atlanta-

based Cuthbert said in a tele-

phone interview on Saturday.

to join Christie's group later

this month for a training ses-

sion in the London Stadium

that bears his name and then

work with Christie in Florida

There is a possibility Ottey

will participate in the London

I think she's chosen him

Cuthbert said she planned

Christie, who plans to

"He's killing me," Cuth-

reports Reuter.

Cuthbert said.

this spring.

Christie's new challenge Vacek breaks

hosts' heart MOSCOW, Nov 12: A gutsy, attacking display by Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic nudged local favourite and world number six Yevgeny Kafelnikov out of the Kremlin Cup at the semifinal stage on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Vacek's nail biting 7-6 (10-8), 3-6, 7-6 (7-5) victory over the top seed put him into Sunday's final against

Roddan foresees some

"With Linford, you never know," Roddan said. "But at the moment I would say no. year and he just wants to enpreparing for a major championship you can't relax as much as when you're running for yourself."

The 35-year-old Christie has also worked with Canadian world 100-metre silver medalist Bruny Surin and 1992 Olympic 100 and 200metre silver medalist Frankie Frdericks of Namibia. He often trains with fellow Brit Colin Jackson, the 110-metre world record holder.

Christie has told Cuthbert he doesn't plan to run for Britain in the 1996 Olympics, but she hopes he will. "Why would be he go to

Australia and train if he's not going to run?" she said. "For him to come back and defend his title would be great." Christie will head to Aus-

tralia in January for a month's training, Roddan confirmed, and then go in March to Tallaahassee, Florida, where the British athletics team will work out before the Games.

very fast times from Christie as he bids farewell to an illustrious career, but the coach also doesn't expect Christie to include the Olympics in his schedule.

He's made his mind up that this is going to be his last joy himself. When you're

It was in self-defence, he

Trouble broke out during

a match in May 1990 be-

tween Dinamo Zagreb and

Red Star Belgrade - two

clubs on opposite sides of the

rival fans fought. "The Ser-

bian police were attacking

our fans," he says. "When I

asked them to stop, one of

them called me a son of a

bitch. I did nothing then, but

when another tried to hit me

in the stomach I just reacted

as anyone would and de-

fying match on 15 November

against neighbouring Slove

nia, and only a bizarre per

mutation of results through

out the remainder of the

qualifying fixtures could deny

it a place in England next

high profile friendly fixture

This is somewhat ironic A

"Too bad for England,

good, so you will have to have

Croatia plays its last quali

fended myself

summer

Boban became involved as

Croat-Serb ethnic divide.

fellow outsider Carl-Uwe Steeb of Germany, who also upset the form book by beating Swiss number three seed Marc Rosset 7-5, 5-7, 6-4. It cannot have been the

final pairing the organisers and sponsors of the 1.2 million dollars tournament were looking for.

Rosset had said he was looking forward to meeting the 21-year-old Russian phenomenon in front of a partisan Moscow crowdwand Kafehrikova who played with his left knee strapped will be doubly disappointed not to get a good send-off before his first appearance at the Frankfurt ATP tournament next week.

The Russian number one. who is also set to play in next month's Davis Cup final against the United States, has said he may need an operation on a niggling knee in-

Yet he showed little out ward sign of trouble on Saturday as he stroked countless breath-takingly accurate and apparently effortless baseline shots past Vacek.

The Czech looked as is if he might be out of it when Kafelnikov, after taking the second set, broke his serve in the first game of the final

But Vacek battled to the net at every opportunity and took matters to tie-break that broke the hearts of the

crowd. Steeb, a former Davis Cup player who has been dogged by injury, put up a calm, solid performance to undo Rosset.

The lanky Swiss giant, twice winner of the Kremlin Cup and ranked 12th in the world, failed to find consistency, particularly on his backhand.

Stern measure for Sino team

BEIJING, Nov 12: Any Chinese sports team in which two members test positive for banned drugs will be suspended from competition and all their results will be annulled, officials said on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The move is part of a

series of measures by China's sports authorities to restore the credibility of the nation's athletes after its sporting reputation was left in tatters when 11 competitors tested positive for doping at the 1994 Asian Games in Osaka:

Any athlete found using banned substances would be stripped of medals won at China's current Urban Games and would face disciplinary measures from their sport's governing body. Yang Tianle, director of the doping security reasons following test department of the Games' organising committee, told the Xinhua news agency.

> The athlete's team would be fined 10 times the fee for one sample test. Yang said.

If more than two competitors on the team tested positive in an event, the team would be suspended from competition and all results annulled, he said.

someone from scratch. workouts. Christie's coach, Christie's coach said. Ron Roddan, said. 'Little Napoleon' drives on his sporting ambassadors By Phil Minshull from London

LINFORD CHRISTIE

whine. He made it clear to

me that this is serious busi-

Christie's friendship with the

Jamaicans, Roddan said. "He

likes working with people

like Juliet and Merlene, but

I'm not sure he would take

The coaching grew out of

In the midst of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia there has been one resounding success story — the Croatian soccer team. Astonishingly for a team that played its first international match only five years ago, it is now among the favourites to win next year's European Championships. Gemini News Service reports.

→ ROATIA'S fledging foot ball team has risen out of the ashes of Yugos-lavia into the top rank of European soccer.

With a string of victories behind them, including one over mighty Italy, the Croat ians look certain to qualify for next summer's European championship finals in Eng land, where they will be among the favourites to win.

England manager Terry Venables reckons they are currently the best team in Europe. It is a fairytale success

story for a team that was born - along with its country only a few years ago as Yugoslavia began to splinter in civil war In the midst of a long and

bloody conflict, it is a miracle that international soccer is taking place at all-let alone that the team clothed in the nationalistic red and white chequered jerseys of Croatia is having considerable suc Since its first interna-

tional match five years ago Croatia's record is formidable. In 22 internationals, it has won 13 matches and lost only four Among the triumphs was a memorable 2-1 victory in Palermo in November 1994 against a team that a few months before had been World Cup runners-up. Croatia's team members

are worshipped in their young country We are a symbol of Croa

tia," says Croatian manager Thomislav lvic. nicknamed "Little Napoleon"

shown on television kicking a "All the players want to contribute something to the Serbian policeman during a building of a new country. They see it as their duty There is no one ambassador hastens to point out. in the world who can do what

the team can do to promote a



In a measure of the country's fierce national pride. the team's volatile captain. Zvonimir Boban, who plays for the Italian glub AC Milan

which had been scheduled for September at England's Wembley Stadium, was cancelled, with the English Football Association citing Croatia's re-entry into the war in Bosnia. Croatia's Zvonimir Boban Kicked a policeman said Boban after the Italian match in Split. "We're too

us after all "- Gemini News About the Author Phil Minshull is a London-based freelance journalist who writes regularly for The Daily cemented his status as peo Telegraph and World Soccer ple's hero when he was