

Vicario survives a toughie

PARIS, June 4: Former champion Arantxe Sanchez-Vicario survived a fierce challenge from unseeded Slovak Karina Habsudova to qualify for her sixth consecutive French Open semifinal today, reports agencies.

The seventh-seeded Spaniard, winner here in 1989 and 1994, had to fight for the three hours of a jittery contest to dismiss her opponent 6-2, 6-7, 10-8.

Habsudova, ranked 26th in the world, had already beaten two seeds — Martina Hingis of Switzerland and Anke Huber of Germany — on her way to her first quarterfinal appearance in a Grand Slam tournament.

In a match watched by the

LATEST

PARIS, June 4: World number one Monica Seles made her exit from the French Open today conceding a 7-6 (9-7), 6-3 defeat at the hands of Jana Novotna of Czech Republic, reports AP.

Veteran Novotna caused the biggest upset at the Roland Garros by defeating the naturalised American in the quarterfinals.



MONICA SELES

daughter of Spain's King Juan Carlos, Habsudova saved two match points in the ninth game of the second set when Sanchez was serving for the match and went on to win the tie-break 7-4.

The third set was a nervous contest with no less than nine breaks, one every two Games. Sanchez spent much of it hitting long and high ground strokes, waiting for her oppo-

nent to make unforced errors. Sampras, a seven-time Grand Slam winner who has yet to win the French Open, has beaten Courier in 14 out of 17 matches, though never on clay. This is Sampras' fourth time in the quarterfinals, a round he has never surpassed.

In the other three women's quarters, defending champion Steffi Graf was playing fifth-seeded Iva Majoli of Croatia, while Monica Seles faced Jana Novotna, the 10th seed from the Czech Republic. Third-seeded Conchita Martinez of Spain was matched with No 9 Lindsay Davenport.

Experience probably also helped Yevgeny Kafelnikov, seeded sixth, qualify for his second French Open semifinal in a row at the expense of Dutchman Richard Krajicek, a semifinalist in 1993.

But the Russian's sheer class was the main reason for his 6-3, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2 victory.

Kafelnikov, who had yet to lose a set in the tournament, was far too fast and clever from the baseline to allow serve-and-volley specialist Krajicek time to rush to the net.

The way he has played since the start of the French Open he can reasonably hope to become the first Russian to reach a Grand Slam final since Alex Metreveli in Wimbledon in 1973.

But first he will have to beat an American, top seed Pete Sampras or former winner Jim Courier, who were also battling it out on Tuesday.

Earlier on Monday Michael Stich downed Thomas Muster, the best clay-court player in tennis, to boost the chances of a serve-and-volley player winning at long last on Paris clay.

With the sun shining on the first day of the second week at Roland Garros, and courts faster, Stich rushed to the net to overthrow the 'King of clay' 4-6, 6-4, 6-1, 7-6.

Muster, who had lost only once on clay this season — to Spain's Carlos Moya in Munich last month — following almost all the other clay-court specialists on the way out.

Chile's Marcelo Rios, for some the main outsider in the tournament, also bowed out, falling to Frenchman Cedric Pioline 3-4, 6-1, 6-2. Pioline will be Stich's next opponent.

American Jim Courier, a

winner here in 1991 and 1992, is the only real specialist of the slow surface through to the quarterfinals after compatriot Michael Chang and all



YEVGENY KAFELNIKOV

the Spaniards in the draw failed to survive the first week.

Veteran Swede Stefan Edberg, who beat Chang in the previous round, at last bid farewell to the only Grand



SANCHEZ VICARIO

Slam tournament he has never won, losing to big server Marc Rosset in straight sets.

The Swiss Olympic champion, also an attacking player, won 7-6, 6-3, 6-3. Edberg, one of the crowd's favourites, had

to be content with saving four match points on his serve before leaving his last French Open.

A big serve did not help Croatia's fifth seed Goran Ivanisevic against Germany's Bernd Karbacher.

Stich confessed after beating Muster in two hours and 36 minutes that he had come to Paris only to practice ahead of the grass-court season.

For him, beating Muster was all the more of a revenge as his career had looked in jeopardy after he twice tore ankle ligaments — in Vienna last November and in Milan three months ago.

The Australian, seeded second, sounded philosophical after his loss but said he would try to emulate Stich and surprise grass-court specialists in Wimbledon.

"Winning here last year has not changed my life. Losing today won't change it either," he said.

"I'll definitely take two or three days off and I'll start a diet — eat some grass."

Ivanisevic, twice a Wimbledon finalist, was not in such a good mood after crashing out in an embarrassing 6-3, 6-1, 6-2 defeat by Karbacher.

"I had a blister from my last match. That's why I almost twisted my ankle twice in the first set. I could not run to one side. I was always late for the ball," he said.

But Karbacher, who struck 14 aces while his opponent managed only two, had a different view on the match.

"I did not win the match because he had a blister," he said.

"It was a surprise the way I played. I did not make one mistake. I served better than Goran and I played perfectly."

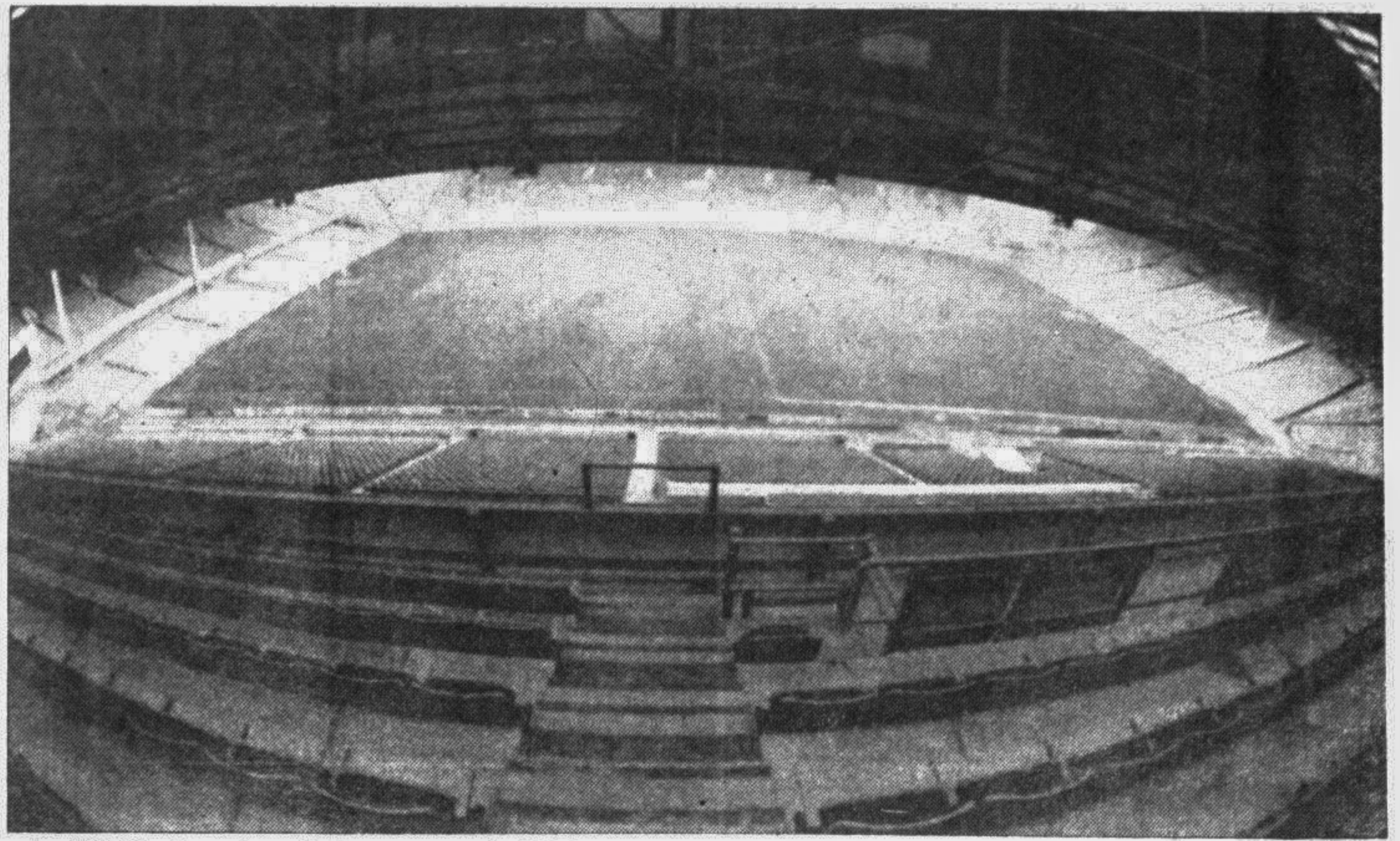
The French crowd will have someone to support in the quarterfinals after Pioline out-clashed Rios in straight sets.

"I was rather prepared to play Muster. Now anybody can be beaten. I'll have to go on court and play good tennis to beat Stich," said the Frenchman.

Pioline, ranked 19th in the world, is gradually reaching the level of play which made him a US Open finalist in 1993.

"The stadiums were in Yokohama, Toyota and Saitama, near Tokyo, were suitable sites for the final match," Ogura said. The minimum seating capacity for hosting the final match is 50,000.

Sports officials had said FIFA's unprecedented decision



An AFP file photo shows Hillsborough in Sheffield, one of the finest football stadiums in England. It will stage three of the Group D matches of the European Championships. Fans will see holders Denmark play Portugal, Denmark v Croatia and Denmark against Turkey.

Rivals' race yet to end



KUALA LUMPUR, June 4: A top Japanese football official said today Japan held the edge to host the final match of the 2002 World Cup as it had three stadiums with a seating capacity of more than 60,000 each.

"We will be disappointed if the final is held in (South) Korea," Junji Ogura, general secretary of the Japan FA, told AFP.

"The stadiums were in Yokohama, Toyota and Saitama, near Tokyo, were suitable sites for the final match," Ogura said. The minimum seating capacity for hosting the final match is 50,000.

Sports officials had said FIFA's unprecedented decision

last Saturday that Japan and Korea co-host the World Cup would spawn many thorny problems, such as, who will stage the opening ceremony and the final match, games that will be watched by billions of people.

Ogura said, Japan and Korea were unlikely to discuss the co-hosting of the World Cup at the three-day Asian Football Confederation (AFC) congress here which started Monday.

He said such discussions were scheduled to be held in Zurich.

"FIFA appointed a committee to work out the details (of the co-hosting)," said Ogura, adding "The sites for the opening ceremony and final of the World Cup would be discussed in Zurich."

The three-member working committee headed by FIFA general-secretary Sepp Blatter is scheduled to meet in Zurich on July 4.

Ogura said, the committee would present a report to the FIFA executive committee (EXCO) in Barcelona on December 4.

"It will be up to the EXCO whether to accept or reject the proposals," he said.

AFC president Sultan Ahmad Shah said Tuesday, FIFA's decision would create many challenges for the co-hosts and urged them to cooperate with FIFA and AFC to ensure the success of the World Cup.

Sultan Ahmad, who is head of the Malaysian Football Association, had expressed alarm early March over the intense rivalry between Korea and Japan to win the rights to host the finals.

Bebeto back at Flamengo

BRASILIA, June 4: Brazilian striker Bebeto was given a hero's reception when he arrived in Rio on Monday to rejoin Flamengo, the team he left seven years ago on his way to becoming one of the world's most revered players, reports Reuter.

About 1,000 fans flocked to Flamengo's training ground to welcome Bebeto with a deafening salvo of firecrackers as he pulled on the team's famous red-and-black hooped shirt.

Bebeto rejoined fellow World Cup strike partner Romario and was introduced to winger Saviio, one of the latest prospects in the national team.

But Bebeto, a prolific goalscorer at Flamengo before signing for Rio rivals Vasco da Gama and then Deportivo Coruna of Spain, is sidelined from the current Rio state championship because of a transfer deadline.

He is expected to make his Flamengo comeback at the start of the Brazilian championship in August.

Euro soccer final results

UNDATED, June 4 (AP): Following are results of previous European Football Championship finals:

1960 Soviet Union 2, Yugoslavia 1

1964 Spain 2, Soviet Union 1

1968 Italy 2, Yugoslavia 0

1972 West Germany 3, Soviet Union 0

1976 Czechoslovakia 2, West Germany 2 (Czechoslovakia wins 5-3 on penalty kicks)

1980 West Germany 2, Belgium 1

1984 France 2, Spain 0

1988 Netherlands 2, Soviet Union 0

1992 Denmark 2, Germany 0

WORLD CUP FILE



UNDATED, June 4: Here are some interesting facts on previous World Cup football finals as supplied by the Associated Press.

SCORES

1930 — Uruguay 4, Argentina 2

1934 — Italy 2, Czechoslovakia 1, AET

1938 — Italy 4, Hungary 2

1950 — Uruguay 2, Brazil 1

1954 — West Germany 3, Hungary 2

1958 — Brazil 5, Sweden 2

1962 — Brazil 3, Czechoslovakia 1

1966 — England 4, West Germany 2, AET

1970 — Brazil 4, Italy 1

1974 — West Germany 2, Netherlands 1

1978 — Argentina 3, Netherlands 1, AET

1982 — Italy 3, West Germany 1

1986 — Argentina 3, West Germany 2

1990 — West Germany 1, Argentina 0

1994 — Brazil 0, Italy 0, (penalties)

Note: AET indicates after extra time.

ATTENDANCES

Year	Site	GP	At.	Avg
1930	Uruguay	18	434,500	24,138
1934	Italy	17	395,000	23,235
1938	France	18	483,000	26,833
1950	Brazil	22	1,337,000	60,772
1954	Switzerland	26	943,000	36,270
1958	Sweden	35	868,000	24,800
1962	Chile	32	776,000	24,250

CHAMPIONS

1930 — Uruguay

1934 — Italy

1938 — Italy

1950 — Uruguay

1954 — West Germany

1958 — Brazil

1962 — Brazil

1966 — England

1970 — Brazil

1974 — West Germany

1978 — Argentina

1982 — Italy

1986 — Argentina

1990 — West Germany

1994 — Brazil

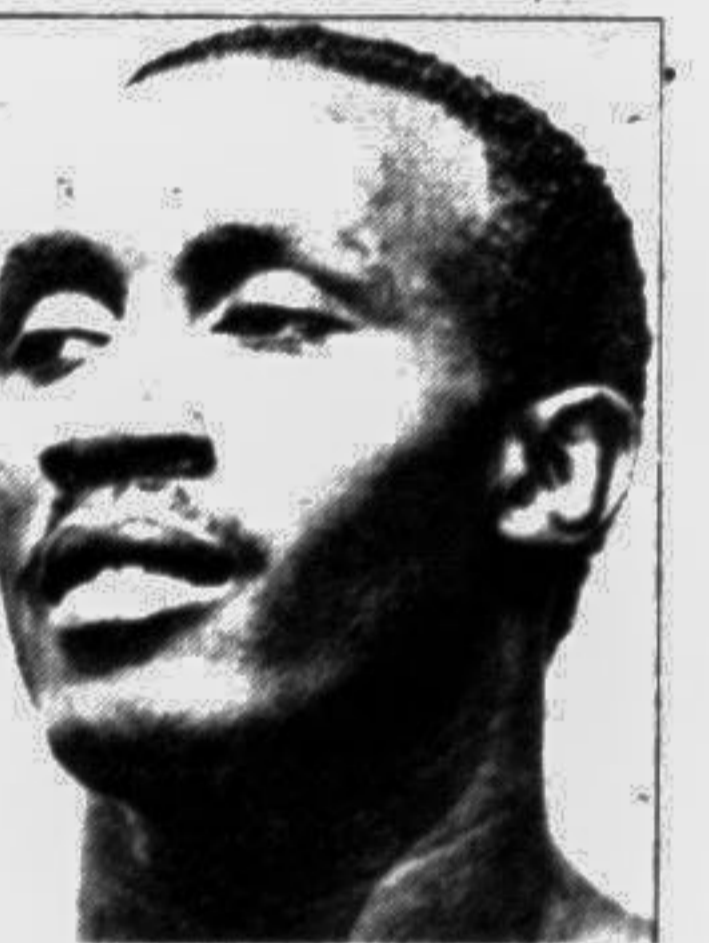
Linford lingers longer

MADRID, June 4 (Reuters): Only one man really knows if Linford Christie will defend his Olympic 100 metres title in Atlanta next month.

And at the weekend's European Cup, the 36-year-old Briton was still not saying whether or not he will be taking on the Americans in their own backyard at the Centenary Games.

But all the signs now point to Christie settling into the starting blocks when the track programme opens on July 26.

Everything looked in full running order on Saturday when the British team captain surged irresistibly to victory in the 100 metres. He added an 11th individual cup title on Sunday with a less convincing performance in the 200, but his time of 20.25 was still his best ever at this time of the season.



LINFORD CHRISTIE

Tokyo World Championships, have been burning up the tracks this year.

Lewis' Santa Monica Track Club teammate Mike Marsh has clocked 9.95 seconds and Lewis himself, apparently rejuvenated, has clocked 9.94 with the assistance of a wind just over the allowable limit of two

metres a second.

Victory to Christie in Atlanta would ensure a place in the history books as the greatest Olympic sprinter of all time.

Only Lewis has won consecutive titles, and his second victory at Seoul eight years ago was a result of Ben Johnson's disqualification for doping.

If Christie does not cross the Atlantic, at least he finished his last European competition in style.

He intends to retire at the end of the season and will not be in Munich next year for the next edition of the European Cup.

The competition did not catch the public imagination at the weekend and European Athletic Association (EAA) general secretary Till Luft conceded that the crowds had been disappointing.

"Yes, they were disappointing," he said. "But I'm confident it will be better for Munich. Even the bull fights here have been having problems."

In Munich the EAA will shorten the competition by reducing the number of attempts in the throwing events from six to four and will consider holding the competition in the afternoon instead of the evening.

But ultimately the success of any athletics meeting depends on the calibre of the athletes and with Christie's imminent retirement the EAA will lose one of its greatest attractions at the annual European Cup.

Venables makes 'em all pay up

LONDON, June 4: No individual England player has admitted causing damage to a plane carrying the squad home from a Far East tour, reports Reuter.

So the entire squad will share the cost of compensation and fines which coach Terry Venables plans to impose.

The England squad has accepted collective responsibility for what has happened. The matter is now being dealt with internally, Venables said on Monday.

Cathay Pacific Airline had complained to the English Football Association (FA) and police that members of the England team caused 5,000 pounds (7,500 dollars) of damage to two television screens and a table on the plane.

Media outrage at the incident little more than a week before England hosts Euro '96, was further fuelled by photographs showing team members with their shirts ripped and clutched beer bottles at a birthday party for Paul Gascoigne in a Hong Kong night club.

Venables said, the players had expressed their "sincere regret" over the incidents on the plane and "financial penalties would be imposed."

Fredericks' fantastic feat

SAINT-DENIS, France, June 4: Namibian Frankie Fredericks underlined his brilliant form by winning a 100 metres in a sparkling 9.95 seconds at an international athletics meeting on Monday, reports Reuter.

Fredericks, an Olympic silver medalist at both 100 and 200 metres, equalled his best time for the shorter distance

set in 1991 with one of the best performances this season.

The veteran sprinter led throughout in bright sunshine in the Paris suburb of St Denis. Nigerian Olapade Adeniken was second in 10.17 followed by American Terry Bowen in 10.19.

"I'm in great shape and the conditions were ideal," said a delighted Fredericks. "It's true that I prefer the 200 metres but it's good to be doing well in the 100 metres."

Fredericks said recent training sessions with Britain's Linford Christie had helped him improve.

"We trained together in Australia and Florida and I learned a lot from it," he said. "I will make a decision later."

Only three men have run faster than Fredericks over 100 metres this season.

Trinidad's Ato Boldon clocked 9.93 in April, a time equalled by American Dennis Mitchell last month in Atlanta. Carl Lewis came second behind Mitchell in 9.94.

Michael Johnson, who will clash with Fredericks over 200 metres in Atlanta, enjoyed a comfortable win at that distance. Fit again after nursing a sore right hamstring, Johnson won in 20.23 seconds in his only race in Europe before the US Olympic trials starting on June 14.

Compatriot Ramon Clay was a distant second in 20.62 and Cuban Ivan Garcia third in 20.72.

"I'm in good shape and this

win gives me confidence for the trials" said Johnson who is hoping to become the first male athlete to complete a 200 and 400 double at the same Olympics.

Algerian Noureddine Morceli, the 1,500 metres world champion had said before the meeting that he would attack his own world record of three minutes 27.37 seconds set in Nice last year.

But the field was too weak to push him and he had to be content with a win in 3:32.47.

France's 400 metres world champion Marie-Jose Perec outclassed her rivals to run the fastest 200 metres this season in 22.30 seconds.

Sino paddlers' secret plan

BEIJING, June 4: China's women's table tennis team will unveil some new tricks in the Atlanta Olympics to overwhelm the opposition. The Beijing Daily today quoted main coach Lu Yuansheng as saying, reports Reuter.

Lu didn't reveal any details of the new tactics, and said the name list for China's Olympic table tennis squad had still not been decided.

"The line-up for Olympics has not been decided yet, but when time comes, we will present our best players and show off some new moves," he said.

Lu is training more than 30 players, including China's top woman player Deng Yaping, in Zhengding city in China's northern Hebei province, the newspaper said. Only four of the 30 will be chosen for Atlanta.

Ford plays fair!

WASHINGTON, June 4: Asked on Monday to evaluate President Bill Clinton's golf game, Gerald Ford produced a hook rather than a slice, reports Reuter.

"He's a good part-time golfer," the former US President told a National Press Club audience. "And sometime down the road, he'll have more time to work on it."

Ford himself has golfed avidly, often with Bob Hope, since leaving the White House in 1977. He and the current incumbent have played together three times, he said.



Mohammad Saiful Islam of Shaheed Abu Taleb High School hurls down a smash during his match at the school badminton competition '95 at Mirpur indoor stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Indian giants split points

CALCUTTA, June 4: Defending champions East Bengal and arch-rivals Mohun Bagan battled to a 1-1 draw in the opening match of the Calcutta Super Division league at the Boodli Salt Lake Stadium here yesterday, reports FTI.

Mohun Bagan's nippy midfielder Satyajit Chatterjee drew first blood with a brilliant effort just a minute before the interval, but a rejuvenated East Bengal restored parity midway through the second session through stopper Ilyas Pasha in an exciting contest.

The youthful Mohun Bagan team, who had tamed East Bengal to lift the McDowell Cup barley a fortnight back and end their 16-month long title drought, sent their supporters into a frenzy when Satyajit Chatterjee put the team in the lead with a superb header from inside the box.

Notice Inviting Tenders

Tender No (Civil) 45 of 1995-96

Sealed tenders in BD Form No 2911 are hereby invited from the special class-I, class-II (Civil) contractors of PWD & class-II Civil contractors of PWD Zone, Ctg. for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Comilla/Noakhali/Feni/B'Baria/Chandpur in their respective offices up to 12:00 Noon of 16-6-1996 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the intending tenderers who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.

- Name of work : Constn of dist Jail at Lakshmpur (Sub-Head:Constn of Hospital Bldg) during the year 1995-96.
- Estimated cost : Tk 29,93,086/28
- Earnest money : Tk 60,000/-
- Time for completion of work : 240 (Two hundred forty) days from the date of issue of work order.
- Tender form will be sold up to : 15-6-1996

6. Contract documents consisting of BD Form No 2911, tender notice, schedule of items, additional terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned & all Executive Engineers under Comilla PWD Circle on payment of usual charges of Tk 750/- (Non-refundable) per set of schedule (Notice inviting tenders, schedule of items, additional terms and conditions etc) and a sum of Tk 25/- (Non-refundable) per copy of tender Form No.2911.

The intending tenderers shall have to produce their registration book of enlistment letter bearing the photo & full signature of the contractor duly attested by a Executive Engineer of this Deptt. along with challan for depositing the current fees at the time of purchasing of tender form as in absence of which no tender form will be sold. No complain in this respect will be entertained.

7. The contractor/firm shall have to submit VAT registration certificate along with the tender failing which their tender will summarily be rejected.

7 (a). In case of lowest equal rate, the contractor will be selected by drawing lottery. The lottery will be held on 25-6-1996 of 12:00 Noon without further information.

M A Rob
Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Lakshmpur
DFP-12410-2/6
G-704