#### Stefan's dream BASTAD, Sweden, July 13:

Magnus Gustafsson stopped Stefan Edberg's dream of win ning a Swedish Open title by beating his top-seeded countryman 6-3, 7-6 (7-4) in Sat urday's semifinals, reports AP.

Gustafsson, a former top 10 player who missed 11 months after a May 1994 shoulder injury and plummeted in the rankings, faces Andrei Medvedev in the final Sunday.

Medvedev, the fifth-seed from Ukraine, defeated No. 2 Carlos Costa of Spain 6-4, 6-4 in the other semifinal.

For Edberg, it was the last hurrah in the clay court tournament, one of the oldest stops on the tour now being held for the 49th time. Twice a finalist here. Edberg will retire after this season. He'll play his final tournament in the Stockholm Open in October.

A serve-and-volley specialist, Edberg won most of his 41 singles titles on faster surfaces, including two each at Wimbledon, the US and Australian Opens. The former topranked player reached one Grand Slam final on clay, los-ing the 1989 title match to Michael Chang.

Gustafsson, seeded fourth and a former two-time Swedish Open champion. reached his second ATP singles final of the year. He won at St Petersburg, Russia, and also reached the semis at Coral Springs, Florida, and the round of 16 at Wimbledon, moving to 37th on the singles

#### **Indians** beat minnows

THE HAGUE, July 13: India beat the Netherlands by 19 runs in a friendly one-day international cricket match here Friday, reports Reuter.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the one-day international cricket match between the Netherlands and India on Friday:

INDIA Ajay Jadeja c De Leede b Asim Khan Nayan Mongia c Smits b Asim Khan Saurav Ganguly c Schiferli b Van Dijk Sanjay Manjrekar not out Rahul Dravid c Smits b Singh Mohammad Azharuddin c Van Dijk b Ravi

Anil Kumble c Smits b Van Dijk Javagal Srinath c Zuiderent b De Leede 30 Venkatesh Prasad not out Extras: (b-1, lb-2, w-7, nb-1)

Total: (for seven wickets, 50 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-26; 2-48; 3-48; 4-86; 5-135; 7-180; Did not bat: N.D. Hirwani

Venkatapathy Raju Edgar Schiferli 10 2 34 Steven van Dijk 10 Tim de Leede 10 0 54 1 Ravi Singh 10 0 28

#### NETHERLANDS

R. van Oosterom st Mongia b Hirwani R. Schulte c Manirekar b Prasad B Zuiderent c Dravid b Hirwani T de Leede b Raju J van Noortwijk b Raju M Nota b Jadeja A Khan not out E. Schiferli not out Extras: (b-4, lb-6, w-8, nb-2) 10 Saurav Ganguly 4 N Hirwani Anil Kumble 27 Ajay Jadeja 38 Venkatapathy Raju10

Result: India won by 19

### Japanese club deals with 'ifs and buts'

BUENOS AIRES, July 13; Argentine veteran soccer star Diego Maradona said on Friday he would agree a deal to play for a Japanese club if they raised their offer by 5.0 million dollar and if Tokyo authorities granted him a visa, reports

"First I want to win the league with Boca (his local club Boca Juniors) — and the Japanese deal can go through if they raise their offer by 5.0 million dollars," Maradona told local radio.

His manager, Guillermo Coppola, said on Thursday the 35-year-old midfielder would sign a 20 million dollars contract with an undisclosed Japanese club if he was allowed into the country.

Maradona would join the club for two years starting in August.

But Coppola seemed to con-tradict himself on Friday when he told the sports daily Ole: 'Maradona will have to choose between a multi-million-dollar contract and greater calm. I hink right now he needs a

certain calm. Ricardo Fuica, an Argentine businessman living in Barcelona, Spain, who is negotiating Maradona's transfer, told Ole he had met Coppola and arrived at a verbal agreement." We only have to sign the

papers," he said. The bottom line may not be

the money but the visa. Japanese club Tosu Futurs. which admitted on Friday it was in talks with Maradona, was scetical the visa request would be granted because of his drugs record.

Japan denied the former Argentina captain a visa to play a friendly before the 1994 World Cup finals - from which he was expelled after failing a doping test - because of cases of cocaine use in Italy and Ar-

# Infamous trial in Sept

BONN, July 13: A German court said on Friday it had granted a prosecutors' request to put the father of tennis star Steffi Graf and one of his financial

evasion, reports Reuter. The court in Mannheim said the trial of Peter Graf and Joachim Eckardt would proba-bly start in the first half of September, but said the exact date still had to be settled.

advisers on trial for tax

"At the same time the arrest order against Mr Graf was maintained after a hearing and his bid to have it lifted was rejected," the court said in a statement. Graf and Eckardt stand ac-

cused of evading taxes on 42 million marks (27.6 million dollars) of the world number one's income from 1989 to 1993. They face up to 10 years in jail if found guilty. Lawyers for Peter Graf said

his trial would show that the financial authorities had behaved illegally during the tax probe against him. Lawyers Kurt Himmelsbach

and Franz Salditt said in a

6-3 here on Saturday in the

semifinals of the 560,000-

dollar Swiss Open, reports

reigning French Open holder

on clay since May at the World

reer title from four finals on

his favourite clay, broke in the

fourth game of the final set to

put the world No. 5 from Rus-

sia on the defensive at the

high-altitude event in the

The 21-year-old Spaniard,

ranked 18th on the ATP Tour

list, saved a break point in the

seventh game with an ace and

clinched his place in the final

two games later when the

playing Felix Mantilla of Spain

in the second semifinal to de-

termine an opponent for Costa,

whose only career crown came

at Ktizbuehel, also in the

the second round here last

year, so this is by far a better

tournament for me." said

Costa, highest ranked among

"I have only one title, but

de Island, July

13: Top seed Byr-

on Black of Zim-

babwe lost his

quarter-final ma-

tch in Leander Paes of India

Friday at the Hall of Fame

tennis championships, leaving

the semifinals to four un-

seeded players, reports

Paes defeated Black 6-1, 3-

Paes will play Nicolas

Pereira of Venezuela, a 3-6, 7-

6 (7-1), 7-6 (7-4) winner over

Andrei Olhovskiy of Russia, in

the semifinals today. Daniel

Nestor of Canada will play

Grant Stafford of South Africa

top seed has won this tourna-

ment, the only grass court

tournament in North America.

history of the tournament,"

said Black, ranked 29th in the

world. "I was expected to win

and I though I would win. But

you can't expect it. You have to

work for it, but I thought I was

playing well enough coming

In reaching his first career

semifinal, Paes defeated 1987

Wimbledon champion Pat Cash

in straight sets in the first

round and knocked out eighth

seed Mark Knowles of the

Bahamas in a three-hour.

three-set match in the second

side me," said Paes. "I've got to

sustain it for a long period of

time to win the first set. He

The talent is definitely in-

It didn't take Paes a long

into this match.

round.

Since it began in 1977, no

"I wasn't thinking about the

in the other semifinal.

Reuter.

6, 6-4

"I lost to Sergi Bruguera in

Czech Bhodan Ulihrach was

holder netted a return.

mountains, last year.

Spanish men.

Team Cup in Dusseldorf.

Swiss Alps.

It was the first defeat of the

Costa, who has only one ca-

Spain's Alberto

Costa stunned top

seed Yevgeny Kaf-

elnikov 3-6, 6-4.

statement the financial author-ities had failed to tell Peter Graf about the fact that they were investigating his tax af-fairs and argued that their omission was illegal.

"The financial authorities have been deceiving Peter Graf for year," they said in a statement Salditt told Reuters that some 20 million marks in alleged unpaid taxes had "in the meantime been paid."

Salditt said that the authori-



PETER GRAF

Kafelnikov sent packing

played world number two

set. Kafelnikov found himself

in his first real fight of the

in the second set when Costa

broke for 5-3 as Kafelnikov

offensive in the next game.

breaking back to 4-5 when

ALBERTO COSTA

Byron joins casualty list

broke Black's serve in the sec-

ond and fourth games for a 5-0

lead. Black broke Paes in the

eighth game of the second set

'After I took the second set.

thought I'd win the match.

but he pulled himself together

and got stronger in the third

Black to take a 2-0 lead, but

Black broke back in the sixth

Dragan's car

dilemma!

Yugoslav captain Dragan Sto-

jkovic was happy to be named

Most Valuable Player in the J

League football all-stars match

a week ago, but he is having

trouble with the automobile

that goes with the title, re-

"This Audi is my fifth car.

have to pay a great amount of

money only for insurance of

these cars." Stojkovic was

quoted by Nagoya-based daily

"I'm very glad to win the

award, but I have a mixed

feeling of joy and anxiety.

have a big problem," he added.

midfielder scored both of his

side's goals in regulation time.

which Ended in a 2-2 tie, and

scored the winner in the

penalty shoot-out to bring his

gen Golf when he started

playing in the J-League two

years ago, and his team has

lent him another car.

Stojkovic bought a Volkswa-

side a 4-3 victory

The Nagoya Grampus Eight

Chunichi Shimbun as saying.

NAGOYA, Japan, July 13:

In the third set, Paes broke

for a 5-3 lead.

set," Black said

ports AFP

post-Wimbledon week.

After winning the opening

The Russian fell into a hole

But the holder regained the

Thomas Muster three times."

GSTAAD, Switz- I'm now hoping to make it two.

erland, July 13: I've had bad luck in finals, I've

double-faulted

Peter Graf since 1991 without his knowledge of this.

"This illegal and unfair game of blindman's buff ended only when Graf's house was searched in 1995," their statement said.

Steffi Graf has also been a target of the massive probe. one of Germany's biggest in recent years, but prosecutors have said they have no reason to detain her.

The Wimbledon champion has said she knew little about her financial affairs, trusting her father and his advisers.

A former used car salesman who has handled his daughter's financial affairs since her childhood, Peter Graf has been in investigative custody in a Mannheim jail since August. Prosecutors have blocked

several bids by his lawyers to get him released, saying he could alter evidence or flee the country. Eckardt has been behind bars since September. The probe into the Graf family finances began in April

last year when investigators raided the homes of Steffi Graf and her father in southwest Germany last May, seizing several documents.

Costa missed a stretch return.

other break in the next game,

though, firing a backhand win-

ner down the line to level the

sets at one each.

The Spaniard produced an-

"I like the altitude," said

Costa, an early loser at the

French Open and a finalist at

the Monte Carlo Open. "It

makes my strokes more pow-

earned his place in the final

four by dispatching three-time

Swiss Open champion Sergi

Spaniard had failed to reach

the semifinal of the Swiss

tournament in eight appear-

clay court player, winning

French Open titles in 1993

and 1994. Bruguera has been

plagued by injuries and his

world ranking has slipped

would have won that match but

this is 1996 and you have to

play with what you have," said

Bruguera, who has not won a

title since the Swiss Open two

juries it is not so easy to come

looking for his fourth title in as

many weeks, had his 17-match

in the final game of the

match. Paes took a 0-30 lead

on Black's serve, but the top

seed won three straight points

for a 40-30 lead. Three

straight unforced errors from

Black, capped by a running

forehand into the net, gave

said Black. "He took it to me."

aces, he also faced 14 break

player to reach the semifinals

of an ATP tour event since

Ramesh Krishnan reached the

tinals in Schenectady, New

two previous meetings, but

Paes used a combination of

powerful forehand volleys and

delicate drop volleys for the

volley. I come in a lot," Paes

said. "If you give Byron a target,

he's bound to pass well. I knew

had to play him from the

back more than come in.

learned I can beat him at his

Pereira dropped the first set,

overcame a left-leg injury in

the second, and came back in

the third set tiebreaker with

five straight points after trail-

years on the pro tour," said

Pereira, who reached his sec-

ond career semifinal. T've

played well against the big

players, but I haven't put a

string of wins together.

Hopefully, this is the time."

"I've been waiting for eight

in the other quarterfinal,

"My main game is serve and

Black had defeated Paes in

points. He saved 11 of them.

"He made the difference.

Although Paes served 12

Paes is the first Indian

Paes the match.

York, in 1990.

victory

own game.

ing 2-4.

winning streak ended by Man-tilla 2-6,17-6 (7-3) 6-1-4

Spain's Alberto Berasategui.

years ago. "With two big in-

"The Bruguera of 1994

from four to 51

Bruguera of Spain 6-4, 6-4.

Fast improving Ulihrach

It was the first time the

Once the sports' dominant

erful and helps my serve.

### King's widow & son to do the honours

ATLANTA, July 13: The widow and son of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King will carry the Olympic flame next Friday on the last day of its 15,000-mile (25,000-km) relay across the United States, reports Reuter.

Coretta Scott King will pass the torch to her son Dexter in front of the King Chapel on the Atlanta Campus of the mainly black Morehouse College, relay organisers said in a statement.

The Olympic Games will open later the same day, when the torch is carried into the stadium and the flame is transferred to the Olympic Cauldron. Details of the lighting ceremony and the final torch bearer remain a closely guarded secret.

Dexter King recently succeeded his mother as chief executive of the Martin Luther King, jr Centre for Nonviolent Social Changes.

The institution, next to the Ebenezer Baptist church where King preached, is devoted to the civil rights leaders' message of racial equality

until his assassination in 1968. Some 10,000 torch bearers have taken part in the 84-day relay through 43 US states.

### Sweden lives in a hope

ATLANTA, Georgia, July 13: A depressed Sweden is looking to the 2004 Olympic Games to cheer the country up. Olof Stenhammar, president of Stockholm's bidding committee, admitted here on Friday, reports AFP.

good. Cuts in pension, sick pay There is an air of pessimism and we can change that," said Stenhammar.

"The Olympics cannot do it all but it can help. The city and the country needs a new sense of hope." he added.

its last six bids to win the Winter Games but Stenhammar said the result of the Summer Games' bid would not be af fected. The Swedish capital last held the Games in 1912.

cities attempting to win the 2004 Games, has budgeted 1.6 billion dollars — almost the same it is costing Atlanta to put on this year's Olympics.

"And so far we have already

to the bidding committee's attempt and voted to give the city full financial guarantees...

The government also pro-

The ten other cities are Cape Town, San Juan, Istanbul, Athens, Buenos Aires, St Petersburg, Rome, Rio de Janeiro, Lille and Seville.

## debut for Seles



NAGOYA, Japan, July 13: Monica Seles made a Fed Cup debut in style here Saturday. leading the United States to a 2-0 lead over Japan with Lindsay Davenport in the world group semifinals, reports AFP. The world co-number one. who has been struggling with a shoulder problem throughout this season, showed no ill effects from the injury, scoring a 6-2, 6-2 win over Japan's

Sugiyama in the second singles "It felt great," said Seles who had dreamed of representing the United States since she was 13. "I was very nervous before I walked on to the court, but it was just great. I played some great tennis.

number two player, Ali

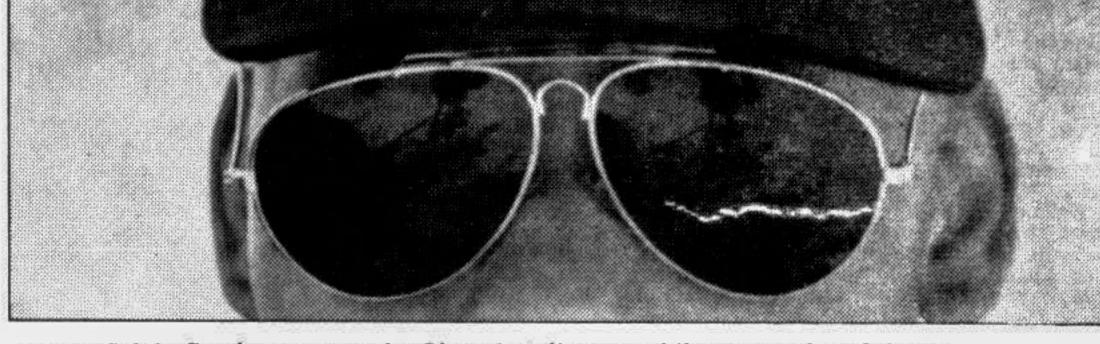
Everything went very well for the whole team out there today and it's just better keep doing that tomorrow," she

Sunday will see the two reverse singles, followed by a doubles in the best-of-five women's team competition. In the opening match on

the indoor supreme court at the Rainbow Hall in Nagoya, Davenport took a 6-2, 6-1 victory to shock Japan's number one Kimiko Date. Date, who upset world

number one Steffi Graf to beat Germany in the first round. took the first two games in the first set and the first of the second set before losing six consecutive games in each of them. "Tennis in the first set was

very good. I don't think she (Date) played bad," said Davenport, ranked 10th against Date's ninth in the world.



POLICE

Officer Calvin Stephans wears the Olympic police cap while on patrol on July 12. - AFP/UNB photo

## Athens wants the moon?

13: Athens, snubbed by Olympic leaders six years ago when it demanded that the

Centenary Olympics return to their birthplace, displayed a new spirit of humility on Friday as it bid for the 2004 Summer Games, reports Reuter.

The Greek capital was one of 11 cities making presentations to the International Olympic Committee's executive board at the start of a 14month contest.

With Athens, Rome, Cape Town and Stockholm are seen as best-placed to make an IOC shortlist of four or five cities next March. Istanbul. Rio de Janeiro, San Juan of Puerto Rico, Lille of France, Russia's St Petersburg and Spain's Seville complete the entry sheet.

The final decision will be made in September 1997. The tone and style of the Greek presentation, pushing Athens as a modern, dynamic city fit to handle the world's biggest sporting event, was in

sharp contrast to Athens' last Olympic outing in 1990.

Then, Greek officials demanded the Games almost as a birthright, endlessly reminding IOC members that not only was Greece home to the ancient Olympiads but it also hosted the first modern Olympics in 1896.

The IOC, unimpressed by the city's infrastructure and transport systems, tired of the refrain and opted for American newcomers Atlanta.

Athens 2004 bid committee president Gianna Angelopoulos told a news conference the Greek delegation felt "very comfortable" in Atlanta and was not at all resentful. "The last bid was the last

for the Olympic Games. It was fair play and we did not get them - we wish Atlanta the perfect Games. "This is a new time and a new bid, there is a new reality.

bid," she said. "Greece asked

Athens is a new city, a modern city and we are bidding differ-We don't deserve it (as a right). We will try our best."

Their best may not be good

enough. Olympic insiders cur-

fourth in the running.

The smart money appears to be on Rome, which has a good record of hosting major sporting events and the useful backing of world athletics chief Primo Nebiolo.

Cape Town also has a lot of support, boosted by the success of last year's rugby World Cup finals and this year's African Nations' soccer championships. South African Olympic chief

Sam Ramsamy said Cape Town

was bidding not just for South Africa but for Africa as a whole. The Olympic Games would also strengthen South Africa's new non-racial democracy and be a boon to economic development. He said he did not agree

with media reports describing Cape Town as some sort of "sentimental" favourite - the city had to show it was capable of hosting a top-class Olympics.

You all know the Games are not decided on sentiment." Ramsamy said. "If it was, then the 1996 Games would have gone to Athens."

### Dreams do come true



ATLANTA, July 13 (AP): As a lonely teenager in a new country. Kevin Han wondered if he would

ever play badminton in the Olympic Games. As he pedaled his bike on the streets of New York City. delivering Chinese food in a neighbourhood frequented by pimps, prostitutes and drug dealers, the thought of hitting a shuttlecock across the net in

There was a day when I thought I would never play badminton ever again." Han recalled. "I thought my dream of playing in the Olympic Games had gone away forever. A top junior badminton player in China, Han emigrated to the United States almost seven years ago, expecting to continue his athletic career amidst a luxurious new

Atlanta was far from his mind.

"I thought there would be this big house waiting for me, Han said, smiling at the prospect. "I thought my dad would be driving a Lincoln Town Car.

Instead, his father was an out-of-work cook, living in a small apartment in the Queensborough of New York

Han, who spoke no English, not only faced the daunting prospect of trying to assimilate to the American way of life, he also would have to give up the thing he loved most. The two badminton rackets

he brought from Shanghai were stored away in a closet not be used again for nearly two years while Han went to school during the day learning English, worked as a busboy in the evening and spent his extra hours as a part-time deliv-

"It was very tough, ver frustrating, because I couldn't do what I love to do," Han said. "But I think every new immigrant has to go through that kind of experience to get where they want to go. I think it's good what I had to do. I have no regrets, and I learned a great and valuable lesson

Once he quit his delivery job and began to feel more comfortable in America, Han resumed his badminton career at clubs around New York City. Before long, he was noticed by Diane Cornell, president of the US Badminton Association, and would up being one of the first seven residents of the Olympic Training Centre in Colorado Springs.

Now, he's on is way to the Olympics, America's best hope in a sport dominated by countries like indonesia. Denmark

"A lot of my old friends are on the Chinese national team coming to Atlanta this summer to compete," Han said. "Part of me will always be there, but I feel like an American now.

Han, 23, qualified for the US team by being the highestranked men's singles player in his adopted country and 32nd in the world, but his medal chances are considered remote. After all, this is a country where badminton is thought of as a backyard pastime - not a sport where the shuttlecock zips across the net at speeds of 200 mph (320

"At the last Olympics, the farthest we got was the second round," Han said. "If I can win more than two rounds, that

would be a great achievement. Especially considering how far he has come since he ar rived in the United States a few weeks before Christmas in

"It seems like ages ago, but it was only five years ago," he said. "I did what I had to do to survive, but I'm glad it's all

national championships

Olympics, these countries

should pay more attention to

cludes only individual athletes

with a good chance of making

on events in which it has tradi-

tionally done well, namely

table tennis, diving, gymnas-

dollar) bonus put up by the

COC awaits all athletes who

minton players and athletes

are expected to make a strong

bid for top spots. China is also

hoping to come up with some

surprises in rowing, archery,

sailing, weightlifting and three

women's team sports-softball,

volleyball and football, Yuan

Cantona's FA Cup

jersey sold

for £17,500!

LONDON, July 13: A football

tics and shooting. Yuan said.

strike gold.

"In order to achieve a clean

The Chinese line-up in-

China is pinning its hopes

An 80,000-yuan (9,600-

Swimmers, judokas, bad-

despite failing dope tests.

their athletes," Wei said.

it to the finals in Atlanta.

### China's course to revival



lifestyle

(AFP): China will try to repeat its excellent perfor mances at Bar celona four years ago when the Atlanta Olympics start later this month. But the Chinese remain annoyed by allegations that their athletes systematically used drugs.

BEIJING, July 13:

"While the United States Germany and Russia are invincible. China one of some 10 members in the second echelon, hopes to finish atop in that group in Atlanta, said Chinese Olympic Committee (COC) vice president Yugan

### Kipketer can run for Kenya

ATLANTA, July 13: World 800-metre champion Wilson Kipketer has been offered a last-ditch chance to compete in the Atlanta Olympics — for the country he no longer represents, reports AP.

The International Olympic Committee says Kipketer, who was born in Kenya but has lived in Denmark for the past six years, can run in the Games as a member of the Kenyan team. Now it's up to Kipketer to

let the IOC know whether he accepts the deal. Until recently, he has shown no interest in running for his native country.

The main point was to find a solution in the interest of the athlete, "IOC director general Francois Carrard said Friday "We had to act swiftly. The solution only depends on Wilson Kipketer's answer. He is free to refuse."

Weimin at a press conference to announce China's line-up for the Olympiad. "It's a tough challenge for

the Chinese athletes since all the members in the group are strong enough to grab some 10 gold medals in Atlanta," Yuan said, declining to specify the number of medals China hoped to win.

At the 1992 Barcelona Games. China won 54 medals, including 16 golds, finishing fourth behind Germany, which picked up 34 golds. The Chinese will figure in 22 of the 26 events. They will

be absent from only baseball, hockey, pentathlon and equestrian events. China will be counting on its female athletes on the 310strong team the largest yet sent by China to the Olympics

to keep its flag flying high in Atlanta. COC secretary general Wei Jizhong, meanwhile, has rejected continuing allegations that Chinese athletes were systematically using perfor-

mance-enhancing drugs. Wei said no Chinese athlete had tested positive during competition since early 1995, adding that China was being

singled out over a "worldwide problem." "Good performance as well as bad performances provoke accusations by some countries, which allow their athletes to compete after failing doping

He singled out the United

States and Australia, who have

been at the forefront of accu-

sations against China, for

allowing their female

swimmers Jessica Foschi and

Samantha Riley to take part in

tests," Wei said.

shirt worn by Manchester United star Eric Cantona raised 17,500 pounds (25,000 US dollars) in a raffle at a Labour Party gala dinner on Thursday night, reports AFP. Guests who paid 500 pounds each for entry to the

prestigious event in the Savoy Hotel, London, enthusiastically launched into bids for the cleaned, ironed and framed shirt with an upturned collar worn by Cantona when Manchester United met Liverpool in the 1996 FA Cup final.

French Olympic booters Geoffray Toyes (R) and Florent Laville practice in Auburn on July - AFP/UNB photo

### 999

"The Economy is not every

So far Sweden has failed in

Stockholm, one of eleven

raised 75 per cent of that. seven years before the Games would be held," stressed Sten-

hammar Early in 1996 the Swedish Parliament gave its full backing

vided a guaranteed income of 335 million US dollars. Next April the International Olympic Committee will reduce the number of bidding cities to four. The final vote will be taken in Lausanne in

September.

# Solid Fed Cup

