

Sport

Gooch gunning for Illy's job

LONDON, Nov 1: Graham Gooch became favourite to take over as chairman of the England selectors when he hinted on Friday he would be prepared to end his lengthy playing career to take up the post, reports Reuter.

The 43-year-old former England captain still has a year of his contract to run at Essex but an almost certain condition of him taking on the job vacated by Ray Illingworth would be for him to quit playing.

Said Gooch: "I am contracted to play for Essex next season but I would have to give the matter serious thought if I was approached to be England's chairman."

"However, I don't think it is possible to be both a player and serve as chairman. Other than that there is not much else I can say on the topic, except that I believe David Graveney would make a very good chairman."

Graveney's route to the high-profile position was effectively blocked by the Professional Cricketers' Association (PCA) who felt there would be a conflict of interests as the former Gloucestershire captain is secretary of their organisation.

NSW 2nd XI 215 for five

TAMWORTH, Australia, Nov 1: A smashing unbroken 113; run partnership guided a New South Wales Second XI to a 60-run lead over England A after the second day of their four-day cricket game here Friday, reports AFP.

Their first innings wrapped up on only the third ball of the day for no addition to the overnight score of 155 for nine. England had the NSW second-stringers struggling at 47 for four before the match slipped from their grasp.

At the close of the day's play, NSW 2nd XI were 215 for five with all-rounder Scott Thompson hitting an unbeaten 78 off 72 balls and wicketkeeper Craig Glascock 56 not out in an unbeaten stand of 113 for the sixth wicket.

Left-handed Warwickshire spinner Ashley Giles gave England some early hope when he crashed through the top order grabbing three wickets, two in two balls. As NSW 2nd XI stumbled to 40 for three.

Giles also picked up Graeme Rummans for 24 to leave the home side 47 for four to bring Thompson to the crease. Giles finished the day with 4-79 off 27 overs.

Thompson's fireworks included nine fours and three sixes, one landing in the Tamworth Olympic Pool in a carry of about 120 metres.

Veteran Essex off-spinner Peter Such was taken task by Taylor and Glascock with his 23 overs conceding 73 runs.

Seles, Capriati in last eight

CHICAGO, Nov 1: Monica Seles and Jennifer Capriati moved closer to their first showdown since 1992 by advancing in the Ameritech Cup on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Seles, who shares the world number one ranking with Steffi Graf, defeated Irina Spirlea 7-6 (7-4), 6-2 in the quarterfinal round, taking advantage of 33 unforced errors and 12 double faults by the Romanian.

Capriati, ranked 50th and a late entry in the Chicago event, upset number eight seed, defending Chicago champion Magdalena Maleeva 6-3, 5-7, 6-1 in the second round.

Capriati, who missed two years on the Tour because of personal problems and injuries, will face unseeded Meredith McGrath today in the quarterfinals. The winner of that match faces Seles, who is playing in her first tournament in a month after taking time to rehabilitate a shoulder injury.

The four-week absence is a brief layoff for the 22-year-old, who was sidelined for more than two years after being stabbed in the back at a tournament in Germany in 1993. Both she and Capriati are enjoying successful returns.

"I haven't played Jennifer since we both have come back," Seles said. "I really don't want to think about it yet."

The two have not squared off since the quarterfinal round of the 1992 French Open, which Seles won 6-2, 6-2. Seles has a 5-2 lead in career matches against Capriati.

A marquee Seles-Capriati match would certainly benefit the tournament, being played at the University of Illinois-Chicago Pavilion. Chicago has been a stop on the women's tour since 1973 and despite having the best field in years, with six of the top 10 players entered, crowds this week have been embarrassingly small.

"I think women's tennis needs to do something," said Seles, who told of people stopping her in downtown Chicago, asking why she was in town. "When we play in Europe and Japan, we play before a full house."

Capriati in her match outduelled Maleeva with her deep groundstrokes.

"I think I let her in a little bit and let her dictate some points (in the second set)," Capriati said. "I wasn't doing anything and then I picked it up. I thought I should play my way instead."

In Thursday's quarterfinal play, Davenport could not explain the closeness of the first set (6-5) and the blowout in the second one (6-0).

"I haven't been practicing much," she said. "I hadn't played for a while, so it was important I got that first match under my belt."

SA hot streak continues



GUWAHATI, India, Nov 1: South Africa's brilliant one-day team continued their triumphant march in the Titan triangular series with an eight-wicket win over Australia here on Friday, reports AFP.

Even Australia's highest score in the series — 238 for six — could not prevent the South Africans from ending the preliminary league with an impressive unbeaten record.

Opener Andrew Hudson made 68 and rookie all-rounder Lance Klusener smashed 88 off 99 balls as the South Africans romped home with 30 balls to spare to record their 25th victory in 28 one-dayers this year.

Hansie Cronje's men now take a well-earned break of four days before Wednesday's final in Bombay leaving Australia and hosts India to grapple for the second finalist's spot.

India have three points to Australia's one from five matches, making their last league encounter at Mohali on Sunday a virtual semifinal.

Australia not only have to win the day-night game, but also ensure they finish with a superior net run-rate than India's to advance to the final.

Australia currently are marginally ahead with a net run-rate of -0.33 to India's -0.38.

Australia's best batting display in the series revolved around a run-a-ball stand of 124 for the fifth wicket between Michael Bevan and Michael Slater.

Left-hander Bevan made a career-best 79 off 70 balls and Slater contributed an unbeaten 53 off 68 after Australia were struggling at 113 for four by the 30th over.

The pair hammered 42 in the last four overs, but the South Africans made light of an asking rate of 4.8 runs an over.

Hudson shared a 60-run stand for the first wicket with Gary Kirsten and then added 73 for the second with Klusener, who was promoted to number three in a pinch-hitter's role.

After Hudson fell in the 24th over, Darryll Cullinan (43 not out) and Klusener guided South Africa home with an unbroken 106 partnership.

Play began on schedule as the weather cleared overnight after week-long rains and the ground staff worked overtime to

repair the damaged Nehru Stadium turf.

Mark Taylor's celebrations in his 100th one-dayer were dampened before the start when star batsman Mark Waugh was sidelined with a calf muscle injury.



PAT SYMCOX ... m-o-m

Stuart Law opened with Taylor after the Australian captain won the toss and elected to bat, and the pair hit up 38 by the eighth over.

After Law fell for 22, superbly caught one-handed at mid-off by Cullinan, Taylor and Steve Waugh added 56 for the second wicket to take Australia to 94 for two by the 25th over.

Taylor was dismissed for 38 by off-spinner Pat Symcox before left-armer Nicky Boje removed Steve Waugh and Ricky Ponting off successive balls to reduce the Australians to 113 for four.

Bevan, who surpassed his previous best by one run and Slater came together at that stage to steer Australia to a reasonable score.

Australia had made 215, 219

and 215 in their previous matches, while the fourth was rained off.

Symcox, who gave away just 32 runs in his quota of 10 overs after sharing the new ball with Brian McMillan, was named man-of-the-match.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Titan triangular series one-day international between Australia and South Africa on Friday:

AUSTRALIA

M. Taylor c Rhodes b Symcox	38
S. Law c Cullinan b Klusener	22
S. Waugh c McMillan b Boje	37
M. Bevan c Symcox b Donald	79
R. Ponting b Boje	0
M. Slater not out	53
A. Gilchrist run out	0
B. Hogg not out	0
Extras (lb-7, w-2)	9
Total (for 2 wks in 50 overs)	238
Fall of wickets: 1-38; 2-94; 3-113; 4-113; 5-237; 6-237	
Did not bat: P. Reiffel, D. Fleming, G. McGrath	

SOUTH AFRICA

A. Hudson c Hogg b Law	68
G. Kirsten b Hogg	27
L. Klusener not out	88
D. Cullinan not out	43
Extras (lb-1, w-4, nb-8)	13
Total (for 2 wks in 45 overs)	239
Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-133	
Did not bat: H. Cronje, J. Rhodes, B. McMillan, P. Symcox, D. Richardson, N. Boje, A. Donald	

Bowling

	O	M	R	W
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McMillan	10	2	35	0
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Symcox	10	0	32	1
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Klusener	7	0	55	1
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Donald	9	0	47	1
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Boje	10	0	43	2
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Cronje	4	0	19	0
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	O	M	R	W
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Fleming	7	0	37	0
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Reiffel	10	1	51	0
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Hogg	8	0	42	1
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McGrath	6	0	41	0
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S. Waugh	4	0	24	0
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Law	10	0	43	1
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Result: South Africa won by eight wickets

Man-of-the-match: Pat Symcox

STANDINGS

Standings in the Titan triangular one-day series after Friday's match (Tabulated played, won, lost, no-result, points)

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	NRR
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South Africa	6	6	0	12	+0.48
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India	5	1	3	1	-0.38
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Australia	5	0	4	1	-0.33
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(South Africa advance to Nov 6 final. India and Australia play the last league match on Sunday to decide the second finalist)

IBF rankings

LONDON, Nov 1 (Reuters): Latest world rankings issued by the International Badminton Federation on Thursday:

Men

1. Joko Suprianto (Indonesia)	319.59 pts
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2. Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (Denmark)	292.76
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3. Deng Jiong (China)	276.83
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4. Rosdi Sidek (Malaysia)	273.10
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5. Heryanto Arbi (Indonesia)	253.93
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6. Ewe Hock Ong (Malaysia)	251.56
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7. Sun Jun (China)	241.28
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8. Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen (Denmark)	231.76
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9. Allan Budi Kusuma (Indonesia)	226.55
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10. Park Sung-woo (South Korea)	206.10
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Women

1. Mia Audina (Indonesia)	309.88
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2. Susi Susanti (Indonesia)	307.69
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3. Bang Soo-Hyun (South Korea)	300.27
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4. Ye Zhaoying (China)	285.55
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5. Camilla Martin (Denmark)	249.53
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6. Wang Chen (China)	241.68
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7. Han Jingna (China)	233.13
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8. Yao Yan (China)	229.11
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9. Gong Zhichao (China)	224.94
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10. Zhang Ning (China)	223.92
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First as a Japanese

LONDON, Nov 1: Kiyo Mori will be the first Japanese coach to have a fulltime job in the World League of American Football, reports AP.

Mori will join the Amsterdam Admirals next spring.

He is the defensive coordinator for Kyoto University, and two of his students played in the WFL last season — Takuro Abe and Shigemasa Ito.

Abe played for Amsterdam. Mori worked with the Admirals at training camp in Atlanta last year. He was a linebacker at Kyoto.

Prabhakar plans to end self-exile

NEW DELHI, Nov 1: Indian all-rounder Manoj Prabhakar, who quit international cricket in a huff in April after being dropped from the Indian team, wants to make a comeback.

Prabhakar, 32, said today he was keen to play for India again after a failed stint in national politics.

"My job is to play cricket and I want to serve Indian cricket for some more time," he told AFP here.

"I want to be back with my teammates since I am confident of meeting the demands of international cricket."

"I still have a few years of cricket left in me and would contribute to the best of my ability. I am available for selection."

Prabhakar announced his retirement at the international level after being dropped for a few World Cup games in March, saying the team management had conspired to keep him out.

But he changed his mind after World Cup captain Mohammad Azharuddin and manager Sandeep Patil were sacked in August and replaced with batting ace Sachin Tendulkar and former Delhi coach Madan Lal.

"I have great regard for both Tendulkar, who is one of the finest batsmen in the world, and Madan Lal, who is like an elder brother to me," Prabhakar said.

Prabhakar contested parliamentary elections in May in the South Delhi constituency for a breakaway faction of the Congress Party but finished a poor third.

There was no immediate reaction from Tendulkar or Madan Lal on Prabhakar's comeback decision, which may well answer their prayers for a genuine all-rounder in the team.

Lewis-McCall bout on Jan 11

NASHVILLE, Tennessee, Nov 1: Nashville has landed a World Championship heavyweight fight.

Boxing promoter Don King announced Thursday that Nashville will be the site of the Lennox Lewis-Oliver McCall World Boxing Council heavyweight title match on Jan 11, reports AP.

The fight, which is expected to produce an opponent for Mike Tyson, will take place at the new Nashville Arena.

Nashville was chosen over Las Vegas and London as potential sites for the bout for the vacant WBC heavyweight title. King visited Nashville on Oct 15 and toured the new arena, which would seat 18,000 for boxing.

Morrison in Tokyo

TOKYO, Nov 1: Former World Boxing Organisation heavyweight champion Tommy Morrison, who retired in February after contracting the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), arrived here Thursday for his comeback attempt, reports AFP.

Morrison was to fight fellow American Anthony Cooks on the bill of the title clash between World Boxing Union (WBU) heavyweight champion George Foreman and Crawford Grimley on November 3.

But Morrison's match is on the verge of being scrapped as the WBU has disowned responsibility for the match, while a warrant has reportedly been issued against Cooks on drug and rape charges.

The 27-year-old Morrison, who has said he will use the money from the fight to help children suffering from AIDS, is banned from boxing in several American States.

Foreman has defended Morrison's decision to return to the ring, having said after arriving here: "I think it's splendid."

"No one knows where the HIV virus has come from nor when it is going to disappear. That could happen to anyone. We are going to make sure we find the cure for this stuff," said the 47-year-old champion.

Ultimate accolade awaits Arjuna



COLOMBO, Nov 1: Sri Lanka will confer the highest national honour on the country's World Cup winning cricket skipper, Arjuna Ranatunga, officials said today, reports AFP.

Ranatunga who led Sri Lanka to victory at the World Cup in March will receive the title of "Deshamanya" at a ceremony attended by President Chandrika Kumaratunga on Saturday, officials said.

They said Ranatunga's vice captain, Aravinda de Silva, and four other players — Roshan Mahanama, Hashan Tillekeratne, Asanka Gurusingha and Sanath Jayasuriya would also be honoured.

President Kumaratunga has already announced a special honour called Sri Lanka Ramya for the team's coach Australian national Dave Watmore, who pulls out of the local team shortly for a job in England.

Watmore, who guided Sri Lanka to their sensational World Cup triumph in March, fills the position vacated by England coach David Lloyd.

AP adds: Sri Lanka will start their tour of New Zealand earlier than originally scheduled. New Zealand Cricket (NZC) announced Friday.

The World Cup champions will arrive in Auckland on Feb 25 — two days earlier than originally planned — and will play an extra warm-up game against Northern Districts in Taupo on Feb 27-28.

The Sri Lankans requested a second warm-up match before they meet the New Zealand in their first Test at Dunedin. NZC chief executive Christopher

Doig said. "We were pleased to accommodate this request."

Sri Lanka will also play a three-day game against New Zealand A from March 2-4 in Gisborne before the Dunedin Test starts on March 7.



A RANATUNGA

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FIFA's moment of truth



ZURICH, Nov 1: FIFA said on Thursday it would rigorously push for the removal of fences following the soccer tragedy in Guatemala in which more than 80 people were killed, report agencies.

Soccer's governing world body said wire fences were "caging in fans like animals or criminals" and clearly was a factor in the Guatemala incident just as it had been in similar incident in Sheffield, England seven years ago.

"Now FIFA is even more strongly resolved to impose this policy, not only on the football community but also upon civic authorities who remain sceptical," FIFA said in an advance text of a statement prepared for its monthly newsletter.

Eighty-one people were killed at a World Cup soccer qualifying match in Guatemala City on October 16 when soccer fans fell down stadium seats and a flight of stairs.

Many were crushed to death against the chainlink fence separating the stands from the pitch in the worst stadium disaster in World Cup history.

Prosecutors and investigators in Guatemala believe one cause of the tragedy was overcrowding caused by the oversale of official tickets and the wholesale forging of tickets.

In 1989, 95 Liverpool fans

were crushed to death at Hillsborough Stadium in Sheffield. "After Hillsborough, the fences came down in the English stadia as a mark of respect for the victims. The same principle must now be applied throughout the world," the FIFA statement said.

FIFA has recently been working on plans to remove fences in France, which is due to host the soccer's World Cup finals in 1998.

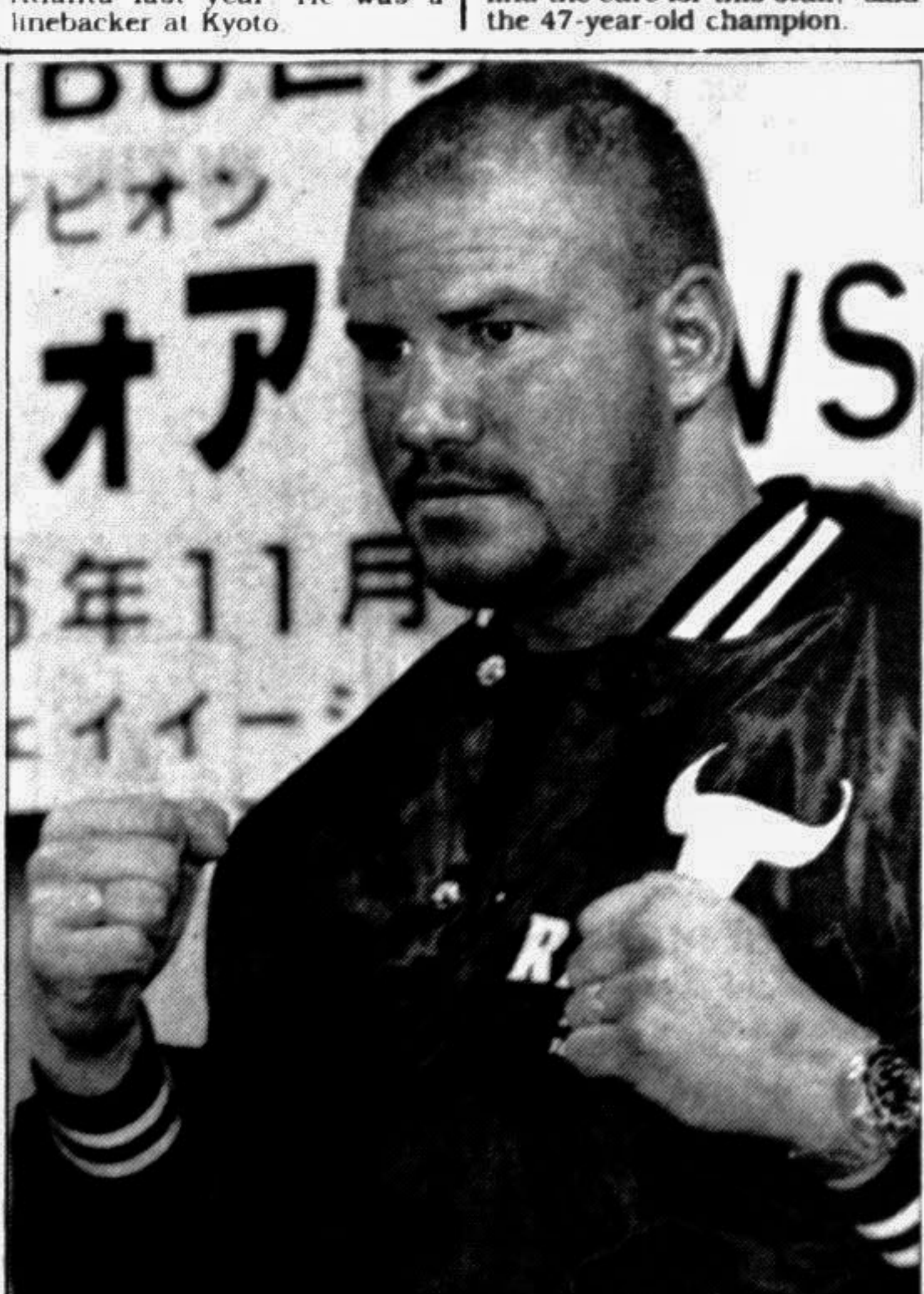
There was no fencing at this year's European Championship in England, and no major crowd trouble inside the grounds.

Arguments that the removal of fences would allow fans to invade the pitch were "uninformed and unconvincing. Even a pitch invasion is better than the loss of a single human life," said the statement.

FIFA repeatedly has called for the removal of fences, but also has said in the past it cannot mandate it because it is required in some jurisdictions.

At the 1994 World Cup in Dallas, local law enforcement authorities initially refused to remove a fence that surrounded the field at the Cotton Bowl. FIFA and World Cup organisers insisted the fence be removed and a compromise was later struck that resulted in the fence being dismantled on one side of the field.

Guatemalan officials are still trying to determine what panicked spectators.



Former WBO heavyweight champion Tommy Morrison poses during a news conference at a hotel in Tokyo yesterday. — AFP/UNB photo

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

Local Government Engineering Department

Bailla, Mymensingh Road, Tangail

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Tender Notice

No 1/1996-97

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for the following schemes under KFW-assisted Rural Development Project-1