

## Matthaeus calls Vogts coward

MUNICH, Germany, Nov 6: Bayern Munich captain Lothar Matthaeus has branded German national football coach Berti Vogts a coward for the way he discarded his former captain before the European Championship finals in June, reports AFP.

"Vogts didn't have the courage to tell me to my face he didn't need a 35-year-old player," Matthaeus, 1990 World Cup-winning captain told Kicker Magazine.

"That shows his character, he's not honest."

"It was the most disappointing thing I've experienced in all my career," added Matthaeus who was capped 122 times by Germany from 1982 to 1994.

Matthaeus, whose last appearance for his country was against Albania in 1994, was dropped after criticising Vogts on the eve of Euro '96.

## CDAG accused of Guatemalan tragedy

GUATEMALA, Nov 6: Hjerne Garcia Laguardia, the Guatemalan human rights prosecutor, said on Tuesday that the National Football Federation and the selection commission should be held responsible for the stadium tragedy that cost 83 fans their lives on October 16, reports AFP.

The incident occurred at the start of the Guatemala and Costa Rica World Cup qualifier, when a gate way releasing a human avalanche that crushed hundreds of spectators against the fence surrounding the playing field.

The blame for this appalling tragedy should be placed at the feet of the directors of Guatemalan football and the selection commission," Laguardia said.

He added that he hoped the official investigators would arrive at the same conclusions.

Another investigating commission had concluded on Monday that the Autonomous Guatemalan Confederation (CDAG) was responsible for the tragedy.

## DRU cricket tourney in Dec

Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) has decided to organise a cricket tournament in the capital in early December, reports UNB.

Four leading teams of the country — Abahani KC, Mohammedan SC, Brothers Union and Bangladesh Biman — have confirmed their participation in the "Dhaka Reporters Cricket Cup tournament".

A joint meeting was held at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday with DRU president Shahidul Kabir in the chair.

The meeting was attended by A H Mostafa Kamal MP, Jalal Yunus, Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu (Abahani), Anwarul Haq Helal (Mohammedan), Raisuddin Ahmed, Ali Ahsan Babu (Biman), Niaz Ahmed Khan (Brothers), Tanvir Haider, Tanjib Ahsan Saad, Mahmudul Haq Manu (BCCB), sports journalists Manjurul Haq, Nasimul Kabir, Rezaul Rahman Sohad, Monwar Haq, Ajoy Barua, Masud Ahmed Rumi, Ataul Haq Malik and Dilu Khandaker, and DRU general secretary Mostafa Peraz.

## Liatti & Co lead in Spain

Italian 555 Subaru World Rally Team driver, Piero Liatti, and lady co-driver, Fabrizia Pons, lead the Catalunya Rally at the end of six Special Stages on Leg 1 of this, the final round of the 1996 FIA World Rally Championship. After a close-fought battle at the head of the



field, 1995 world champion, Colin McRae, finished the day in 4th position, with teammate and newly-crowned Asia-Pacific Rally champion, Kenneth Eriksson, in the place overnight, says a press release.

Liatti, a known asphalt specialist, made his mark on the rally on the first stage of the day, setting equal second fastest time with double World Champion, Carlos Sainz. Fastest time on the second stage gave the Italian a 1 second advantage and by the end of the 553 he had pulled out a 7 second lead to head the field with Belgium's Bruno Thiry (Ford).

The anticipated head-to-head battle between Britain's Colin McRae and local hero and former 555 Subaru teammate, Carlos Sainz, came to a quick and premature demise when the Spaniard rolled out of the event on only the second stage of the day. Colin's pace has steadily increased throughout the day, and a trouble-free run in the Subaru Impreza 555 has left him 4th overnight only a mere 6 seconds off the lead an indication of the intense level of competition on the fast asphalt roads in the northern Costa Brava region of Spain.

Teammate Kenneth Eriksson — 7th overnight — rounds off the trio of Impreza 555s, a creditable position for the Swede who still only has two days of competitive driving on tarmac surface in the Subaru under his belt.

Kiwis face SL in desert duel' opener

## Waiting a riveting war



SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Nov 6: Sanath Jayasuriya and Shahid Afridi will renew their spectacular batting rivalry when the three-nation Champions Trophy starts here on Thursday, reports AFP.

Afridi, the 19-year-old Pakistani, stunned the cricket world last month when he smashed the Sri Lankan's world record for the fastest century by an incredible 11 deliveries.

Ironically, it was Jayasuriya's own left-arm spin that bore the brunt of the assault as Afridi hammered him for five of his 11 sixes during the 37-ball century in Kenya.

Jayasuriya, whose hundred off 48 balls in Singapore in April was itself considered beyond reach, hopes to hit back



A RANATUNGA

when Sri Lanka make their first appearance at this desert venue since becoming world champions.

New Zealand are the third team in the nine-day event where each side plays the other twice before the final on November 15, worth 30,000 dollars to the winners.

The tournament holds special significance for two Australian coaches. It is Dav Whatmore's last for Sri Lanka, and Steve Rixon's first for New Zealand.

Whatmore, who master-minded Sri Lanka's World Cup triumph in March during his two-year term, is due to replace English coach David Lloyd at Lancashire next season.

Rixon, the former New South Wales captain and Test wicket-keeper, is the first Australian to coach the Tasman neighbours.

FIXTURES	
Nov 7:	Sri Lanka v New Zealand
Nov 8:	Rest day
Nov 9:	Pakistan v New Zealand
Nov 10:	Sri Lanka v New Zealand
Nov 11:	Sri Lanka v Pakistan
Nov 12:	Sri Lanka v Pakistan
Nov 13:	Pakistan v New Zealand
Nov 14:	Rest day
Nov 15:	Final

He succeeds Glenn Turner who was sacked after the defeat in the World Cup quarterfinal at Australia.



WASIM AKRAM

Deprived of the traditional India-Pakistan showdown because of India's commitments at home, organisers hope to attract fans by playing up the other two Asian giants.

"Sri Lanka and Pakistan are worth going to miles to watch," said an official of the Cricketers' benefit Fund Series (CBFS), organisers of the tournament.

"They are, along with South Africa, the best one-day sides in the world, it should be heady cricket all the way."

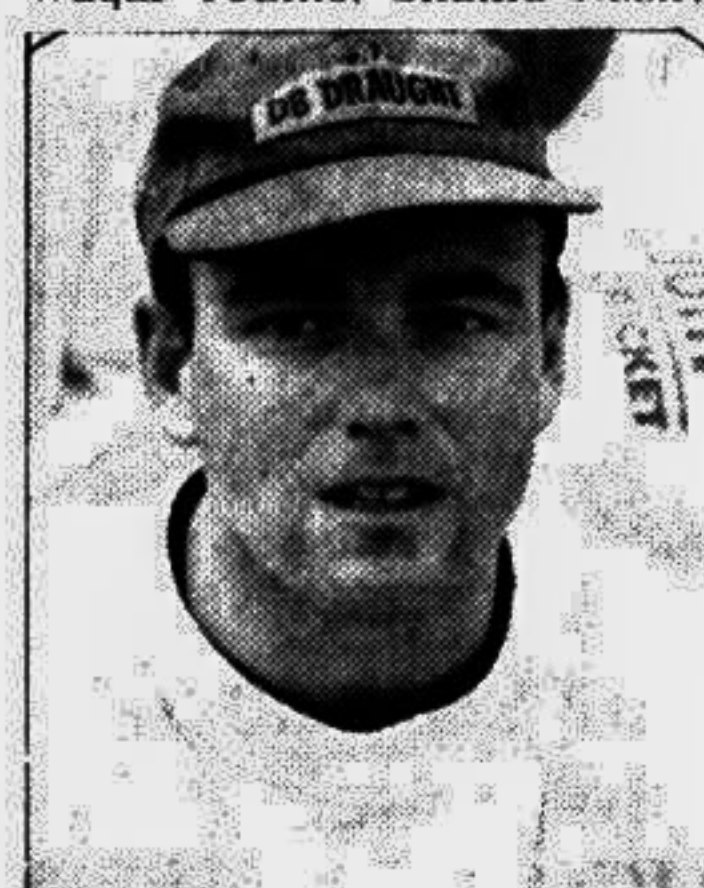
Sri Lanka, who take on New Zealand in Thursday's opener, are looking to avenge their defeat against Pakistan in the recent Nairobi tournament, which South Africa won.

But Wasim Akram's Pakistan come to their favourite hunting ground as the team in form, having beaten arch-rivals India 3-2 at Toronto in September and blanked Zimbabwe 3-0 at home last week.

"We plan to continue the winning streak," warned Akram, the only bowler to take 300 wickets in both Test and one-day cricket.

The Kiwis who go to Pakistan from here for two Tests and three one-dayers, have added rookie spinner Paul Wiseman to their 15-man squad following injuries to Dipak Patel and Mark Haslam.

**TEAMS**  
**PAKISTAN:** Wasim Akram (capt), Saeed Anwar, Amir Sohail, Salim Malik, Ijaz Ahmed, Hasan Raza, Azam Khan, Moht Khan, Saqlain Mushtaq, Shahid Afridi, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis, Shahid Nazir.



LEE GERMON

Abdul Razzak.

**SRI LANKA:** Arjuna Ranatunga (capt), Aravinda de Silva, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Sanath Jayasuriya, Roshan Mahanama, Hasan Tillekeratne, Asanka Gurusinha, Kumara Dharmasena, Muttiah Muralitharan, Upal Chandana, Chandra Vaas, Ravindra Pushpakumara, Sanjeeva de Silva.

**NEW ZEALAND:** Lee Germon (capt), Nathan Asle, Mark Greatbatch, Stephen Fleming, Blair Pocock, Craig Spearman, Adam Parore, Chris Cairns, Chris Harris, Gavin Larsen, Chris Pringle, Dipak Patel, Mark Haslam, Danny Morrison, Simon Doull, Paul Wiseman.

## 2002 co-hosting at stake?



ZURICH, Switzerland, Nov 6: A confidential Japanese document circulated to selected members of FIFA about the 2002 World Cup to be co-hosted by Japan and South Korea threatens to sour relations between the two countries, reports AFP.

Some executive committee members suspect Japan may be trying to put pressure on in a bid to strengthen their position when key decisions such as where the final will be held are taken.

Korean sources said they first learnt of the document, written in September, earlier this week.

"We were surprised to say the least," said one Korean delegation member.

Shortly after FIFA's decision last May to share 2002 between the two Asian nations, general secretary SEPP Blatter wrote to both country's football associations asking them not to come to any joint decisions until a special FIFA working group met.

The Koreans are convinced the Japanese document breaches the FIFA call to do nothing until the working group meeting, while holds its first session here late Wednesday evening.

"As far as we are concerned we are following the agreement to the letter," said a Korean official.

## Seeler turns sixty

BONN, Nov 6 (Reuters): Germans on Tuesday celebrated a footballer who they have adored for decades because of his playing bravado yet down-to-earth attitude — Uwe Seeler.

Seeler, who played 72 times for Germany in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, was treated to an array of tributes from politicians and sportsmen alike on his 60th birthday.

Small, balding and stocky, the former striker, who is now chairman of First Division Hamburg, never looked like an athlete — even in his prime.

"The reason you are popular in sport and beyond is because of your personality," German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said. "You are all about hard work, reliability, loyalty and commitment to social issues."

Germany's World Cup-winning captain and coach Franz Beckenbauer, added: "He was an idol for me. He was the model captain."

Korean sources said they had no objections to the contents of the Japanese memo, which listed a series of proposals and queries over opening and closing ceremonies and extra financing by FIFA to offset costs, but were concerned by the fact that it was circulated to only selected executive committee members and kept secret from Korean.

The confidential document is only the first in a list of possible upsets in a World Cup co-hosting plan that is fraught with dangers.

Neither country, bitter historical enemies, wanted to share the world's biggest football tournament but FIFA decided on co-hosting, fearing that to have a loser would be political disaster.

Wednesday's opening working group meeting will start to tackle the thorny problems involved in co-hosting, including the competition format and venues.

There have even been suggestions that a way out of the hosting final itself could be for rivals play each other with the winner getting the prize.

But some soccer officials in both countries worry privately that there could be a backlash against the whole tournament in the country which loses out.

"The only way for everyone to be happy would be to play it on an aircraft carrier mid-way between Japan and South Korea," one western diplomat said. Japan want to increase the number of teams in the finals to 40 instead of the 32 that will be at the 1998 World Cup finals in France.

Korea are opposed to the idea and there is believed to be little support amongst other FIFA members.

Japan says swift decisions are needed on the number of teams and financial arrangements so it can advise by next month which of 15 Japanese cities have been selected as World Cup sites.

The Zurich meeting was not expected to discuss the issue of allowing North Korea a role in the World Cup, the South Korean spokesman said.

"We will focus on the negotiation of how we can share the game with Japan. At the moment, we are not considering North Korea's role in the game," he added.

## Goalkeepers may be restricted further

ZURICH, Nov 6: FIFA may ban goalkeepers handling headed backpasses next year if its referees committee proposal is accepted by the international football association board next March, reports AFP.

At present goalkeepers can handle the ball headed back by defenders but must kick clear any pass played back to them by foot.

The law-making board was expected to discuss the proposal, made by the FIFA committee here on Tuesday, at its March meeting.

## Danish leagues start tomorrow

The second phase of the Danish Premier and First Division leagues will begin tomorrow after a month's recess, reports UNB.

On the opening day there will be two Premier league matches — Aramagh K S vs Agram Bank SC (4 pm), holders vs FC Midtjylland (6 pm) — and Bangladesh Boys Club (6 pm) — both at the Mirpur National Stadium.

In the First Division league, Rahmatganj MFS will take on BRIC at the Army Stadium.

Team standings of the premier and first division leagues on completion of the first phase:

Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
MSC	9	7	2	0	15	6	23
AKC	9	6	3	0	18	21	21
Mukjodha	9	6	2	2	12	7	17
Farashganj	9	4	2	3	6	14	14
Fakirpool	9	3	4	2	5	13	13
BU	9	3	2	4	7	11	11
Aramagh	9	2	1	6	7	11	7
Agram Bank	9	1	3	5	9	15	6
East End	9	1	3	5	8	19	6
B Boys	9	1	2	6	5	13	5

**Hattrick:** Mizan (Abahani KC) against East End Club.

**Leading scorers:** 6 goals — Mizan (Abahani) and Nakib (Muktijoddha); 5 goals — Alfaz (Mohammedan) and Tutul (Agram Bank); 4 goals — Rakib (Abahani) and Roxy (Aramagh); 3 goals — Ranjan (Mohammedan), Reaz (Muktijoddha), Jamal (Brothers) and Saurav Majumdar Raju (East End); 2 goals — Jewel Rana, Manik (Mohammedan), Rumi, Liton, Jahangir (Abahani), Don, Tipu (Brothers), Maksudul Amin Rana (YMC Fakirpool), Ratan (East End) and Asad (B Boys).

## 12 disciplines for 8th SAF Games

Twelve sporting disciplines have been included in the Eighth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games to be held in Katmandu from September 20-30 next year, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the South Asian Sports Federation in the Nepalese capital on Tuesday, informed Bangladesh Olympic Association secretary general Golam Qudus Chowdhury.

The disciplines are: Athletics (men and women), Swimming (men and women), Football (men), Volleyball (men and women), Karate (men and women), Boxing (men and women), Wrestling (men), Kabaddi (men), Table Tennis (men and women), Shooting (men and women) and Weightlifting (men).

The 10-day meet will be participated by all the seven South Asian countries — Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and hosts Nepal.

## C'wealth Games Star earns TV rights

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 6: Hong Kong-based Star TV and Malaysia's Satellite television and radio network, Astro, signed a contract Wednesday to broadcast the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Malaysia, reports AP.

Astro, launched Sept 25 by Measat Broadcast Network System, will be the exclusive satellite broadcaster of the Games in Malaysia. It licensed the rights for the rest of Asia to Star TV.

Sukom, the Games organizers, which signed the deal with the two companies, did not disclose its terms.

The Network Australia Television New Zealand, British Broadcasting Corporation and Australia Broadcasting Corporation have already signed broadcast deals for the Games. Sukom has deals pending in Africa, Canada and Europe.

## Marseille bounce back

PARIS, Nov 6: Troubled Marseille restored some pride with an impressive 3-1 win over title-chasing Monaco in the French soccer league on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

The former European champions who had taken only one point from their last five games, bounced back in style to the delight of their fans packing the Velodrome Stadium.

Marseille went ahead after just 70 seconds thanks to striker Xavier Gravelaine, set up by a brilliant pass from midfielder Ludovic Assar.

Captain Jean-Philippe Durand, who came back only recently after a long injury break, scored his side's second goal with a shot from close range in the 12th minute.

Marseille sustained their attacks, making it 3-0 after 30 minutes with a superb acrobatic volley from midfielders Eric Roy.

Monaco, beaten only twice in their previous 15 matches, reduced the arrears with two minutes remaining through a penalty by Brazilian Anderson.

"I have to congratulate my players for their courage," said Marseille trainer Gerard Gili.

"The most important thing for us was to win. As for my future, we'll talk about it later."

Marseille climb two places to 12th in the 20-team division while Monaco stay second but are now under pressure from Auxerre.

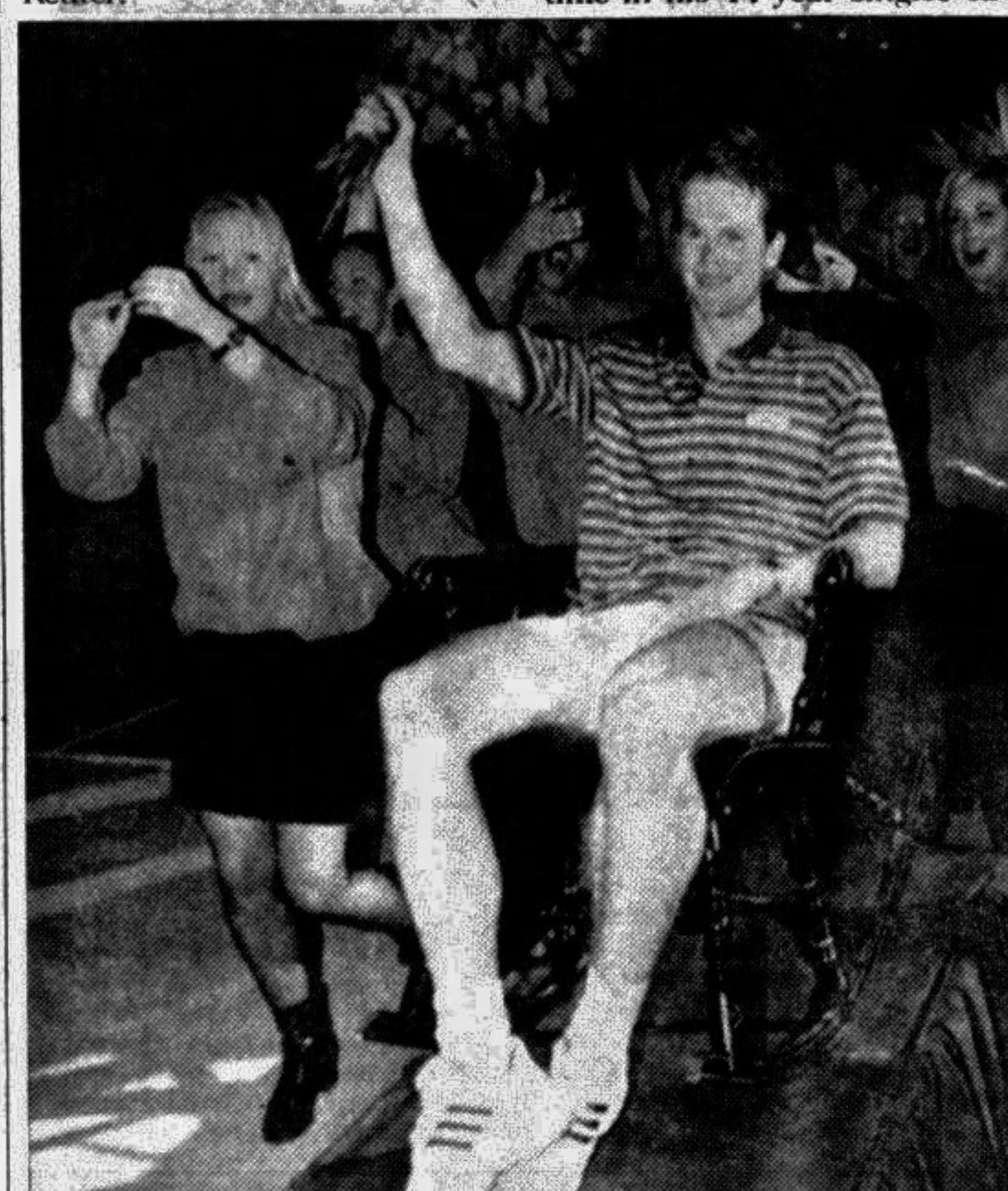
## Stefan's stirring swansong



STOCKHOLM, Nov 6: Stefan Edberg received an emotional farewell as his tournament singles career ended on Tuesday with a disappointing first-round defeat in the Stockholm Open, reports Reuter.

In an 80-minute match in front of a packed arena, Nicklas Kulti defeated fellow Swede and former world number one Edberg 7-6, 6-3.

Edberg, 30, said he has been playing quite well but admitted he felt the pressure as he took to the Centre Court for the last time in his 14-year singles career.



STAR'S LAST RITES: In the last match of his 14-year-long illustrious pro-career, at the Stockholm Open yesterday, Sweden's Stefan Edberg wearing an emotional expression on his face receives a fond farewell from the home crowd, organisers and ball girls. — AFP/UNB photo

## EDBERG'S CAREER AT A GLANCE

PARIS, Nov 6 (AP): Mild-mannered Swedish star Stefan Edberg's illustrious record at a glance. Edberg ended his pro-career in Stockholm on Tuesday.

**Grand Slam history:**

**Year Record 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96**

Australian 56-10 2R QF Won — Won SF QF RU SF RU RU SF 4R 2R

French 30-13 — 2R QF 2R 2R 4R RU 1R QF 3R QF 1R 2R 4R

Wimbledon 49-12 2R 2R 4R 3R SF Won RU Won SF QF SF 2R 2R 2R

US 43-12 1R 2R 4R SF SF 4R 4R 1R Won Won 2R 2R

**Total: 178-47.**

**Grand Slam finals (6-5):**

**1985 Australian Open** — def. Mats Wilander, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

**1987 Australian Open** — def. Pat Cash, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 5-7, 6-3.

**1989 Wimbledon** — def. Boris Becker, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-2.

**1989 French Open** — lost to Michael Chang, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 2-6.

**1989 Wimbledon** — lost to Boris Becker, 0-6, 6-7, 4-6.

**1990 Australian Open** — lost to Ivan Lendl, 6-4, 6-7, 2-5, retired.

**1990 Wimbledon** — def. Boris Becker, 6-2, 6-2, 3-6, 3-6, 6-4.

**1991 US Open** — def. Jim Courier, 6-2, 6-4, 6-0.

**1992 Australian Open** — lost to Jim Courier, 3-6, 6-3, 4-6, 2-6.

**1992 US Open** — def. Pete Sampras, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6, 6-2.

**1993 Australian Open** — lost to Jim Courier, 2-6, 1-6, 6-2, 5-7.

**Grand Slam doubles titles (3):**

**1987** — Australian Open (with Anders Jarryd); US Open (with Jarryd)

**1996** — Australian Open (with Petr Korda)

**Career titles (41):**

**1984** — Milan.

**1985** — Memphis, San Francisco, Basel, Australian Open.

**1986** — Gstaad, Basel, Stockholm.

**1987** — Australian Open, Memphis, Rotterdam, Tokyo-outdoor, Cincinnati, Tokyo-indoor, Stockholm.

**1988** — Rotterdam, Wimbledon, Basel.

**1989** — Tokyo-outdoor, Masters.

**1990** — Indian Wells, Tokyo-outdoor, Wimbledon, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Long Island, Paris-indoor.

**1991** — Stuttgart-indoor, Tokyo-outdoor, Queen's, US Open, Sydney-indoor, Tokyo-indoor.

**1992** — Hamburg, New Haven, US Open.

**1993** — Madrid.

**1994** — Doha, Stuttgart-indoor, Washington.

**1995** — Doha.

**ATP Tour history:**

**Year Record Money YrEnd Rnk**

**1982** 0-3 \$21,976 523

**1983** 12-10 \$31,976 53

**1984** 32-17 \$201,802 20

**1985** 60-19 \$720,401 5

**1986** 70-21 \$1,056,031 5

**1987** 78-12 \$1,587,467 2

**1988** 67-18 \$1,402,802 5

**1989** 64-16 \$1,661,491 3

**1990** 70-15 \$2,0