

**QUARTERFINALS
AT A GLANCE**

France 0	Italy 0
(France won 4-3 on penalties)	
Brazil 3	Denmark 2
Holland 2	Argentina 1
Croatia 3	Germany 0

Orange order

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next month, echoed that view.
"In 1996 we had our problems. But we've sorted things out. Here everyone has one goal — and that's to go as far as possible," said Stam.
Coach Guus Hiddink shares Bergkamp's supreme optimism for the week ahead with the ultimate prize shimmering tantalisingly on the horizon.
"We played Brazil last time in the quarters but this is the semis so that's already one step better. We know we're very strong and we can look forward to the game. We know Brazil. Brazil know us. It will be a very interesting game", said Hiddink.
Before the match against Argentina, South American fans teased their Dutch counterparts in cafes and around the ground by chanting "Kempes, Kempes", their hero two decades ago.
But afterwards, the air was filled with the cries of "Holland, Holland" and "Bergkamp". An unhappy page in Dutch footballing history was finally turned, and Bergkamp is already drafting a whole new chapter.

Deutsch downfall

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we never gave up and we gave it all we could. There was at the most just one goal in it.
"It's very sad to lose and this is the end for us," Kholer said. "It's a great shame because I don't think it was fair to lose in this way."
Coach Berti Vogts said the expulsion was the result of the "provocative way" the Croats played.
"Until the expulsion, we played our best game in the tournament. It's useless to talk about the expulsion now, Croatia is through and we are going home," Vogts said.
"My team gave everything but it wasn't enough. I am still happy with my team."
Vogts took over the team in 1990, after Germany won their last World Cup title, under Franz Beckenbauer.
"I'll have to make a personal decision but I cannot make it a half-hour after the game," he said.
"I'll be thinking about rebuilding the team without rushing myself, but I must have the players necessary for that. We have to analyze everything well, it's not all in my hands," said Vogts after one of Germany's worst defeats, which came in his 100th game as national coach.
It was Germany's worst defeat in a World Cup since the 8-3 thrashing by Hungary in an early round in 1954. But that time, Germany rebounded to win their first World Cup title by beating Hungary 3-2 in the final.
"The mood is really downbeat," said striker Oliver Bierhoff.

Diego salutes

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Ortega, wearing the no 10 shirt and hyped as the new Maradona, got himself sent off with two minutes to go.
"I can't believe that he did," said Maradona. "And he was having a brilliant World Cup."
Clearly determined to go for the penalty as he tried to round Jaap Stam in the penalty area, Ortega launched himself into a horizontal lunge.
Referee Arturo Brizio Carter of Mexico was unimpressed by the gymnastics and showed Ortega a yellow card for his pains.
But Ortega didn't stop there. After angry Dutch goalkeeper Edwin Van Der Sar rushed out to confront him for diving, he was felled by Ortega's head butt. The midfielder was immediately shown a red card.
Diego Bergkamp settled the match 2-1 in the 90th minute and the Arsenal striker said afterwards: "Ortega's sending off gave us renewed heart."
Coach Guus Hiddink was delighted to see the back of the Argentine playmaker Ortega.
"We were in trouble after the sending off of Numan, but because of the sending off of Ortega we were equal in the number of players."

Finest hour

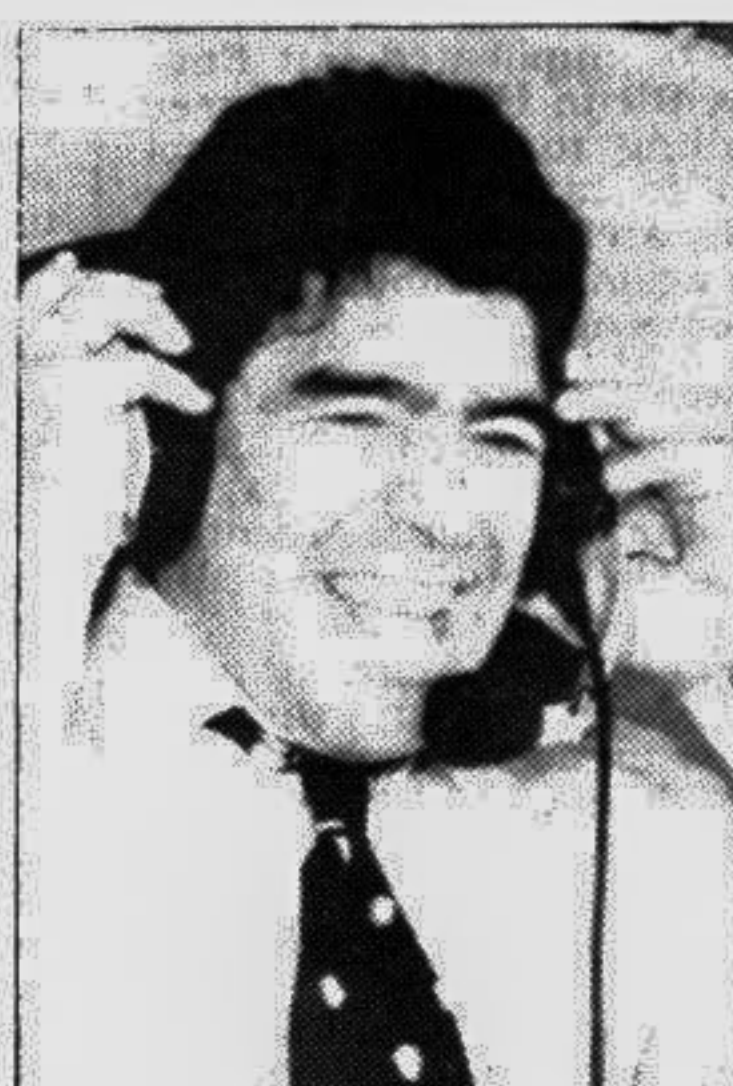
From page 13
true but we are not afraid of anybody, we are sufficiently crazy — led by our boss — in a positive sense."
"When (coach Miroslav) Blazevic said two years ago that we were the best in the world, we all laughed. But we are laughing less and less now."
"I am not saying that we are going to be champions but it is now a fact that we have a good chance."
Robert Jarni dedicated the victory to the Croatian people who had suffered at the time of the disintegration of the Yugoslav republic in the early 1990s.
"Many people had a bad time in the war and we dedicate this to them. It's not just the most important win for me but for the whole country that has had such a hard time. We hope we have given them some joy," Jarni said.
"Our strength was that we didn't push forward and didn't lose our heads against the Germans who are so strong. We waited for the right moment for the second goal."
Croatia goalkeeper Drazen Ladic said his side were the best in the world. "We played extremely well. We deserved this win," Ladic said.



BEYOND REPAIR: German custodian Andreas Kopke (L) breaks down in utter dejection while the referees pass him by after the quarterfinal against Croatia. — AFP photo

Maradona blasts Passarella

MARSEILLE, July 5 (Reuters/Internet) Diego Maradona had harsh words for Argentina's World Cup team coached by Daniel Passarella that crashed out in the quarterfinals on Saturday.
He criticised Ariel Ortega, who inherited his No. 10 shirt, for being sent off in the final minute of Argentina's 2-1 defeat by the Netherlands at Marseille's Velodrome stadium.
"We didn't hold the ball and this shows that we must never give up our way of playing," said Argentina's 1986 World Cup-winning captain. "That's proof that we must return to basics."
"Argentina succumbed to Holland's game. We didn't do our own thing and Holland, without anything, made problems for us," said Maradona, a pundit for Argentine television station America 2.
Maradona could not have timed his arrival in France worse, having missed Argentina's four previous matches which they won.
His previous Argentine World Cup match as a television pundit was also a defeat, 3-2 to Romania in the second round four years ago after he was kicked out of the tournament for falling a dope test.
Passarella's team began the World Cup among the favourites



with a controlled possession game that helped it win eight matches in a row without conceding a goal.
But they struggled against the pace of England and Dutch attacks, and big European defenders.
"These matches are very difficult and you can't lose your calm and concentration," Maradona said. "Argentina lost it. Buriro (Ortega) lost it and in one minute it all changed."

Speaking from the experience of four World Cups, including two successive finals, Maradona said: "Here (in the World Cup) the game is played with a lot of passion and today unfortunately it was our turn to lose."
Maradona said sweeper Roberto Ayala was Argentina's best player. "Ayala is the best defender in the world, this was shown by his marking and the ease with which he plays his way out of the area in difficult situations."
Maradona, who scored some memorable World Cup goals, said the Netherlands' first goal, laid on for Patrick Kluivert by a brilliant headed pass by Dennis Bergkamp, was the best of the tournament.

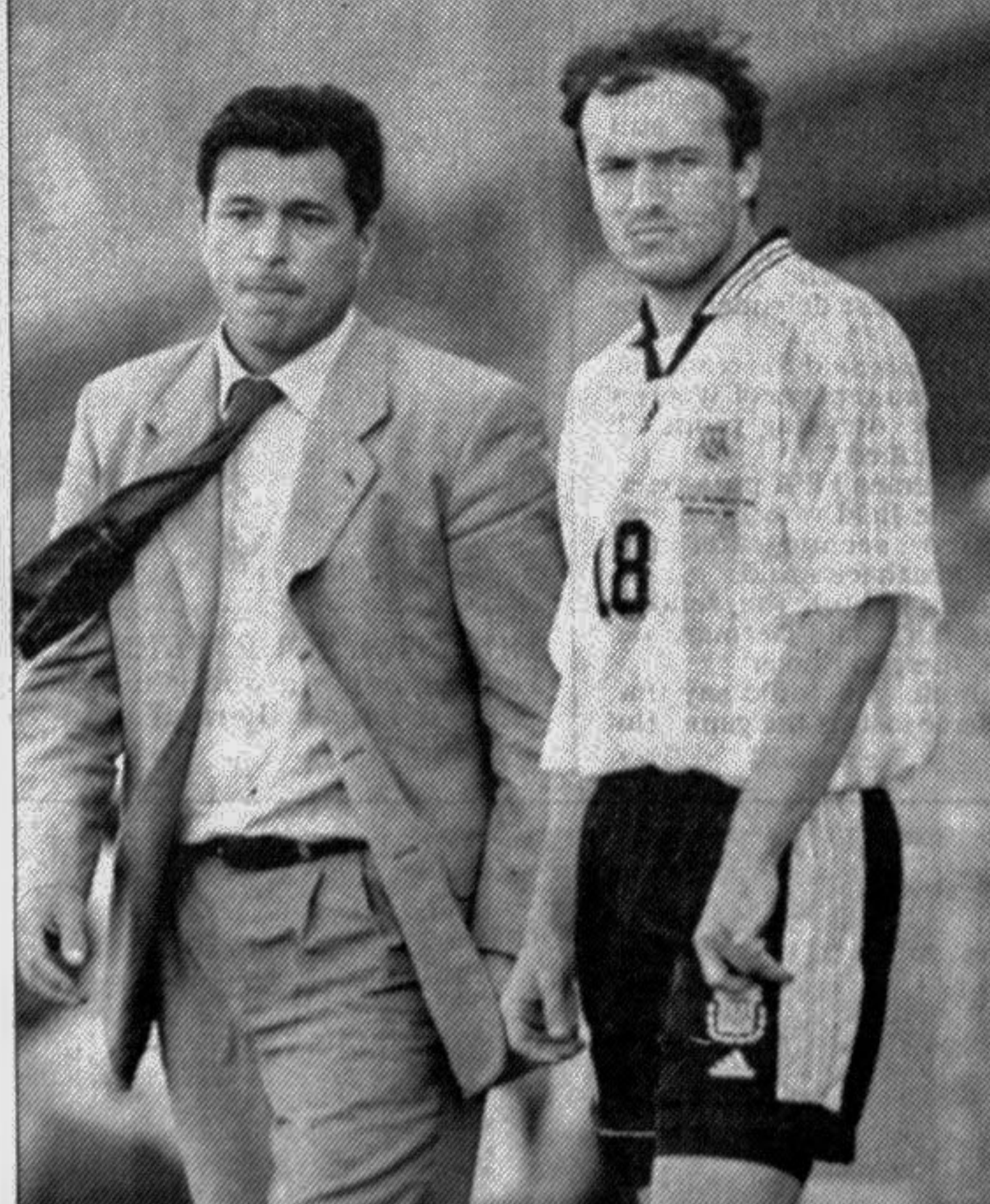
ABSORBING ANECDOTES

PARIS, July 5 (Reuters): Facts and figures of Saturday's matches at the World Cup finals:
Germany's 3-0 defeat by Croatia was their heaviest in their World Cup since they lost the third place play-off 6-3 to France in 1958. Their only other big loss was to Hungary in 1954 when they lost a group game 8-3. But they still qualified for the next round and eventually went on to get a revenge 3-2 win over Hungary in the final.
It was the first time in 19 matches that Germany had failed to score a goal in the World Cup finals. The last time was in 1986 when they drew 0-0 with hosts Mexico before winning in a Penalty shootout.
Croatia became the first team to reach the semifinals since Portugal in 1966.
Croatia's victory was the biggest of their fledgling World Cup finals history. The previous best was a 3-1 win over Jamaica in a group game.
Germany's defeat meant that four teams that have won the World Cup have made their exit in the space of four days — England, Italy, Argentina and Germany. With the exception of Italy, all of them had a player sent off in the process.
Since becoming a united country, Germany have failed to reach the World Cup semifinals. They lost to Bulgaria in the quarterfinals four years ago. Before that West Germany were at least semifinalists in eight out of 10 attempts from 1954 to 1990.
Of the four semifinalists, only Brazil have ever won the title. Neither France nor Croatia, who meet in Wednesday's semifinal, have ever reached the final before. The two nations have never played each other.
Brazil and the Netherlands, who play the other semifinal on Tuesday, met in the 1994 quarterfinals when the Brazilians won 3-2. They also met in 1974 when the Dutch triumphed 2-0.
In every finals tournament they have reached since World War Two, the Dutch have lost to the eventual champions. They qualified four times before — losing the 1974 final to (West) Germany, the 1978 final to Argentina, going down to (West) Germany in the second round in 1990 and to Brazil in the quarterfinals four years ago.
Dennis Bergkamp, who scored the winner in the 2-1 win over Argentina, has scored in six of the Netherlands' eight matches in World Cup finals.
The Dutch victory was revenge for their last meeting — Argentina's 3-1 extra-time win in the 1978 final in Buenos Aires.
Germany became only the third European team to lose by three goals or more at the finals. The others were Scotland, who went down 3-0 to Morocco, and Bulgaria, who lost 6-1 to Spain.

Zagallo joins in ref bashing

LESIGNY, France, July 5 (Reuters): The World Cup referees have left Brazil coach Mario Zagallo perplexed.
The Old Wolf has seen it all in a career spanning six World Cups but still seems baffled by some of the decisions made in France.
He was scratching his head again on Saturday after full-back Cafu received a yellow card for taking too long for a free kick during Friday's 3-2 quarterfinal win over Denmark.
Cafu, whose pace and forays upfield have made him a key player, was also booked in the second round and is now out of Tuesday's semifinal in Marseille.
Zagallo was asked whether he would remind his players to be careful not to get booked but replied that he had no advice to give them because referees were so inconsistent.
"Really, I don't understand it," said Zagallo. "Players have done far worse things (than Cafu) and not been booked. There was an incident in the Italy-France game where an Italian elbowing an opponent and didn't get a yellow card."
"We have seen red cards for minor things and violent tack-

les where there has not even been a yellow.
"Then we had a player who got knocked to the ground, raised his leg and clipped (Argentina's Diego) Simeone and got sent off," he said, referring to the red card given to England's David Beckham in the second round. "Simeone knocked him over and only got a yellow."
"I don't see any criteria. We never know what will happen, if there will be a red card or a yellow card because the criteria are always different."
"The criteria depends on the referee on the day of the game. If there's no criteria, anything can happen."
Zagallo said he had got over the excitement of Friday's game, when he looked pale and weak at the end.
"It was just that moment," said the 66-year-old veteran.
"It was an emotional game, not just for me but for the team, the Brazilian fans and the media."
"I called home after the game and talking to your wife and children back home makes you even more emotional. I'm an emotional person and talking to my family made me feel it even more," he added.



DISAPPOINTMENT TELLS: Argentine coach Daniel Passarella (L) and squad member Abel Balbo understandably upset after the quarterfinal loss. — AFP photo

Ze Carlos takes Cafu's place

LESIGNY, France, July 5: Defender Ze Carlos will replace the suspended Cafu in Brazil in the World Cup semifinal in Marseille on Tuesday, coach Mario Zagallo said Saturday, reports AFP.
It is only the second international appearance for the 30-year-old Sao Paulo defender who won his first cap in the 1-0 defeat to Argentina in Rio de Janeiro in April.
Cafu was suspended for the semifinal after picking up his second booking in successive matches against France in Friday's quarter final.

Dutch injury blow

MONTE CARLO, July 5 (AFP/Internet): Dutch defender Winston Bogarde is likely to miss the rest of the World Cup after suffering an ankle injury during training here on Sunday.
He was rushed to hospital but there was no immediate word about his condition.
Although the 27-year-old has not started so far, he was expected to be called up for Holland's semi-final clash against Brazil on Tuesday following the one match suspension of Arthur Numan.
Numan picked up two yellow cards and an automatic one match suspension during the quarter-final match against Argentina on Saturday.

WC jail-break!

BANGKOK, July 5 (AFP): Eight prisoners escaped from a Thai police station early this morning while guards were engrossed in television coverage of the World Cup, police said.
The prisoners fled their holding cell in Muang district of Rayong province, 179 kilometres (107 miles) southeast of Bangkok, as guards sat absorbed in the match between Germany and Croatia.
Police said they were alerted to the escape at about 6 am (2300 GMT) two hours after the end of the game when an officer checked the cell.
They said investigations were underway and declined to give more details, including on how the men escaped.
The escapees were not considered dangerous.

Sidelined but celebrating

LYON, France, July 5 (AFP/Internet): Australian-born Anthony Seric has been revelling in his World Cup experience with Croatia marching all the way to the semi-final.
The 19-year-old Seric may not have appeared in Croatia's glory run, but he has lapped up the success and euphoria at Croatian success in their first tournament.
"To beat Germany 3-0 is just a dream," said Seric. "We deserved to win and I think the whole country is out celebrating."
Seric, who spent the first 17 years of his life in Sydney, added he used to have to wait till the early hours of the morning if he wanted to watch his current Croatian teammates play.
But he was watching live from the sidelines on Saturday evening as Robert Jarni, Goran Vlaovic then Davor Suker put three goals past three-times champion Germany.
Seric formerly played at Sydney United and he has been overwhelmed to find himself in the World Cup semi-finals and rubbing shoulders with players of the stature of Real Madrid's Davor Suker and AC Milan's Zvonimir Boban.

A game away from greatness

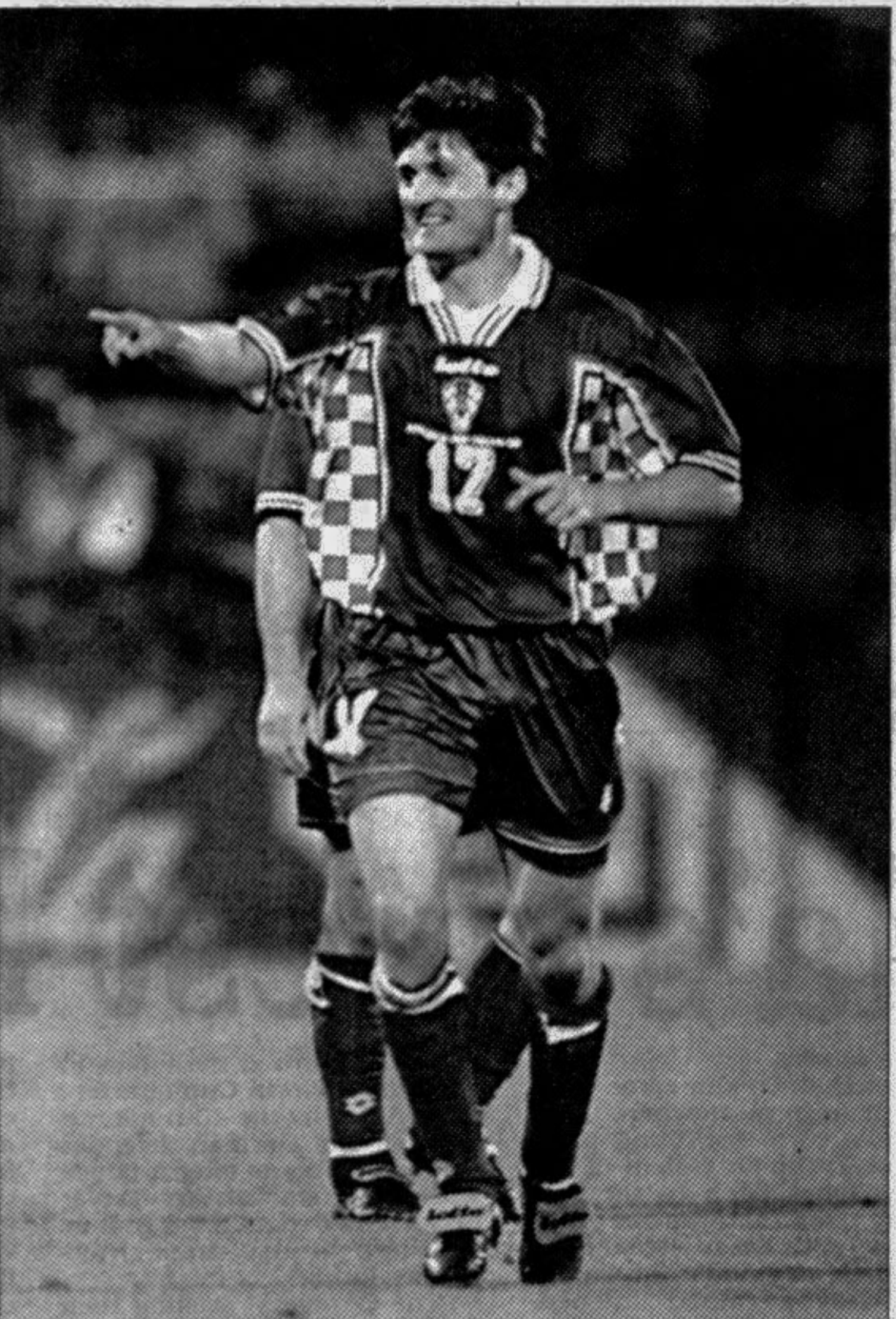
CLAIREFONTAINE, France, July 5 (AP): Les Bleus now face the next challenge, one victory away from becoming the greatest French team ever.
Already the 1998 squad is on a par with three other great teams of the past. The 1958 squad of the World Cup's all-time top scorer Just Fontaine, the 1982 team of mastermind Michel Platini and the 1986 edition with the "magic" midfield quartet.
However, all three earlier teams lost in the semifinals and fell a step short of the ultimate goal: A berth in the World Cup final. Next Wednesday, the bulk of 80,000 fans in the Stade de France and most of the 60 million other French will be urging Aime Jacquet's men on into this uncharted territory.
"It's the only comparison that can be made," said star playmaker Zinedine Zidane, looking back into French soccer history. "Now we have to make sure we can get higher."
Zidane's energetic play inspired the French team during their quarterfinal victory over Italy on Friday in a penalty shootout.
Jacquet felt the momentum was going France's way. "In my mind, we cannot stop in the semifinals," he said.
"We have this culture of victory within us now," said defender Lilian Thuram.
The team will need to regain its scoring touch, though. So far, France have been an impregnable defensive bulwark, with the most frustrated forward line left in the tournament.
He joined Hajduk Split in the 1997 close season and said he found the game to be much quicker and much physically harder than what he had been used to during this time in Australia.
He added the many good players in Croatia compared to Down Under together with his time at France 98 has really made him a better footballer and helped him mature as a person.
Seric is a left-sided midfielder, now a first-team regular at Hajduk, who has one international cap. He knew all along it was unlikely he would actually get on the pitch at the World Cup unless injury forced the hand of coach Miroslav Blazevic.
Blazevic is looking beyond the World Cup and sees Seric as a future replacement for left wing back/midfielder Robert Jarni.
Seric said Blazevic's laid back approach — Blazevic has often told him to relax and take it easy — has really encouraged him.
Former Australian coach Terry Venables offered Seric the chance to play for Australia but Seric plumped for Croatia instead.

Old ship finally sinks

From Dr Nizamuddin
PARIS, July 5: The old ship finally sank. For the first time since 1958 the Germans conceded 3 goals in a match. Some may say that the Germans could not play. Others will contend that the Croats did not allow them to. In reality the Germans are out. It is no more a dream that a nation only seven years old is in the semi-finals of the France '98 World Cup. Zagreb celebrates, for they have nothing to lose. It now looks like Croatia might win all of it.
When the World Cup finals began, Croatia's qualification itself was considered their ultimate prize. A quarterfinal berth took their sceptics by surprise. Only now are they looking up to Suker and his band of merry footballers in anything close to the respect they undoubtedly deserve.
On Saturday at the Stade de Gerland in Lyon nine out of ten bet on a victory for Klinsman-

n's men. But the Croats, exhibiting tactics befitting a world class team, found it no bother to outclass their colonial masters.
From start to finish, 10 Croat players concentrated on the German box and lived beyond their expectation as one of the most attacking sides.
Jarni, whose goal showed that he was a player of exceptional quality and skill, caused the turning point of a match, which was marred by Woern's sending off. Unlike England, the Germans did not back their defence and went on with their normal game because they had to score to win. They paid the price.
Goran Vlaovic's long shot from the right was proof of his magnificent form. And Suker, who more than anyone deserved a goal, created a masterpiece at the end of a spell of brilliant and exceptional skill.
Before this quarterfinal, the

French had thought Germany would be difficult in the semifinals. Now Croatia's flattering victory is making France think once again. But the French coach said this morning that they're ready for Croatia. As for Croatia, they are saying — we were not afraid of the Germans, why should we fear the French?
Croatia humiliated the Germans to no end. One reason could be Klinsmann being out of rhythm. The Germans failed to penetrate the very tight Croatian defence. Croatia was superior on the evening and perhaps no scene showed it more than that of Klinsmann forlornly walking off the field after the match with a Croatian jersey on his heavy shoulders.
Croatia may owe their victory to a cap given to them by a fan. Manager Blazevic carried it with him in the quarterfinals and it shall surely be in their baggage in the semifinals against France.
Brazil are no less superstitious and her fans shall continue to pray on the steps of the Sacre Cour. They might need it against Holland, whose homogenous team played in a constant tempo to perform as a collective unit.
Brazil will depend on their superior individual technique and, maybe, take advantage of some racial tension within the Holland team, apparent against players from Surinam.
Bergkamp's goal after three touches of the right foot was quality stuff. Holland's first goal came after a good defence-splitting move that caught the Argentinians napping. It looked better for most of the game and Argentina appeared lost even after Numan's sending off. Ortega should have held more composure and Bergkamp could not have scored at a more crucial time. The European sturdiness and technicality overran the solo music of the Latins.
Celebrations are now on in four capitals of the world. In Paris they continue day in and day out. The French, who seemed so reserved just a week ago, have also joined in the celebrations. The Brazilians, who are here in numbers, have passed on their spirit of joy to the French. The avenue of Champs Elysees and other streets of Paris now ring with the merry-making of revellers dressed in the national colours of Brazil. The French, though only now, are joining in. The World Cup fever has now reached its pitch for the remaining four. And the world awaits with bated breath. But until the end, and possibly after, the carnival will continue in Paris.



JARNI'S JOY: Croatia's Robert Jarni celebrates his devastating 25-metre strike against Germany at Lyon. — AFP photo

WC gamblers held in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, July 5: Hong Kong police arrested eight men suspected of illegally gambling on World Cup matches, a police spokesman said today, reports AFP.
The eight, aged between 30 and 43, were arrested late Monday at a fast food stall in Aberdeen on Hong Kong Island after police had watched them for two hours.
cally in 1982 and 1986, when France lost to Germany twice in the semifinals.
Now Jacquet is putting his hope in two 20-year olds from Monaco, Thierry Henry, who scored three times in the first round, and David Trezeguet.
With heavy responsibility weighing down on young shoulders, the two remained cool when they both hit perfect penalties in the shootout against Italy.
And it was a defender, Laurent Blanc, who scored the deciding penalty. Blanc had already scored the 'golden goal' in the 1-0 win over Paraguay.
If one thing is certain, it is that the French defence has carried the whole team in five games, it has conceded one goal, a penalty, and on Friday it overwhelmed World Cup top scorer Christian Vieri.
Marcel Desailly has been outstanding. "You don't need a photofinish. He is the best defender of the World Cup."
Often compared to Platini, Zidane realised all too well his playmaker predecessor readily scored when the team needed it.
"I haven't scored yet, so I hope it will come in the semifinals," he said.
Even Fontaine scored a World Cup record 13 goals in the 1958 finals, when France finished third, a pure striker for Les Bleus has been a very rare bird indeed.
The offense thrust has always come from midfield, espe-

ment.
After tallying nine goals in the three first-round games, the scoring well has dried up alarmingly. France only scored in the 114th minute to beat Paraguay in the second round and couldn't score a single goal in two hours against Italy.
"We cannot do anything about it. It's all up to confidence and patience," said Jacquet.
"I know the problem and there is no explanation," said captain Didier Deschamps.
In the games against Italy and Paraguay, France created plenty of opportunities but failed each time on the last touch. Youri Djorkaeff missed a golden opportunity and Stephane Guivarch had little immediate impact.
"If we keep creating opportunities, we will finally end up by scoring some," said Jacquet.
Zidane, coming back after a two-game suspension, had a near-perfect game, spreading passes around at will, but, he too, realised his performance was missing something. "A goal," he said.
Jacquet felt the momentum was going France's way. "In my mind, we cannot stop in the semifinals," he said.
"We have this culture of victory within us now," said defender Lilian Thuram.
The team will need to regain its scoring touch, though. So far, France have been an impregnable defensive bulwark, with the most frustrated forward line left in the tournament.



BYE BYE ARGENTINA: Dennis Bergkamp's (C) crisp shot about to enter the Argentine net at Marseille on July 4. — AFP photo