

**Euro 2000 final in Feyenoord**

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, Oct 27: The final of the European Championship in 2000 will be held in the Feyenoord Stadium in Rotterdam, reports Reuters.

"De Kuip", as the stadium is known, will host the final on July 2, 2000, the last of the 31 matches of Euro 2000 which Belgium and the Netherlands are co-hosting.

Jeu Sprengers, Dutch FA chairman and joint president of the Euro 2000 board, made the announcement today at Euro 2000's first major news conference, saying De Kuip got the nod over the Amsterdam arena for financial reasons.

Amsterdam will stage one of the semifinals, along with Brussels' King Boudewijn Stadium.

**BSkyB control increases**

LONDON, Oct 27: International media magnate Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB television announced today that it now controls 44.6 per cent of Manchester United football club's capital as part of its ongoing takeover bid, reports AFP.

BSkyB, a pay satellite and cable service which already has exclusive rights to LIVE coverage of England's Premier league football matches, said that Manchester United shareholders had accepted its offer Monday for 33.5 per cent of shares.

The company had already bought 11 per cent of the shares in Man United, one of the world's most successful and most profitable football clubs, on the stock market.

BSkyB's 623 million pound (1.06 billion dollars) takeover bid for the club was launched in September and has been accepted by the Man United board.

However, it faces opposition from some of the club's fans and it must still clear the government's regulatory hurdles.

The Office of Fair Trading (OFT), the organisation which monitors company takeovers, has said it will extend its review by 15 working days to give the offer extra consideration after receiving 350 letters of complaint.

The government will decide on November 2 whether to give its approval or whether to refer the takeover for further scrutiny to the monopolies and mergers commission.

Last Friday, a spokesman for the trade and industry secretary Peter Mandelson, who has the last say, denied that the minister was already ready to endorse the deal, saying he had not yet made his decision.

Earlier this month, the English Football Association said that it opposed the takeover.

"If the bid is allowed to go through it will create a situation where not only the strength of one club but also the influence of one club would extend far beyond the range of others," the FA said.

**Greg, Dwight in US Hall-of-Fame**

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Oct 27 (AFP): Three-time world 110-metre hurdles champion Greg Foster and world-record high jumper Dwight Stones have been voted into the United States Track and Field Hall-of-Fame.

Joining them in the honour class of 1998 were seven-time discuss world-record holder Jay Silvester and distance specialist Francie Larrieu-Smith, USA Track and Field officials announced Monday.

Induction ceremonies will be conducted on December 3 in Orlando, Florida, following voting by athletics journalists, Hall-of-Fame members and USA Track and Field officials.

Foster, 40, was a 1984 Olympic silver medalist who dominated the 1980s in his event. In addition to three world outdoor titles he won the 1991 world indoor crown.

Stones, 44, became the first "flop" jumper to set a world record, doing so in 1993. He won Olympic bronze medals in 1972 and 1976.

Larrieu-Smith, 45, set 35 US records from 1,000 metres to two miles and was a member of five US Olympic teams starting in 1972.

Silvester, 61, won Olympic silver in 1972 and the bronze in 1976.

**Boxer dies**

TOKYO, Oct 27: Super bantamweight Japanese boxer Ken Katagiri died Tuesday of brain damage, two weeks after suffering a knockout defeat, the Japan Boxing Commissioner said, reports AP.

Katagiri, 28, was the 28th boxer to die from injuries suffered in a bout since the commission was set up in 1952, said Tsuyoshi Yasukouchi, a spokesman for the commissioner.

It was the first ring fatality since junior bantamweight Akira Taiga died after suffering a knockout defeat in October 1997, Yasukouchi said.

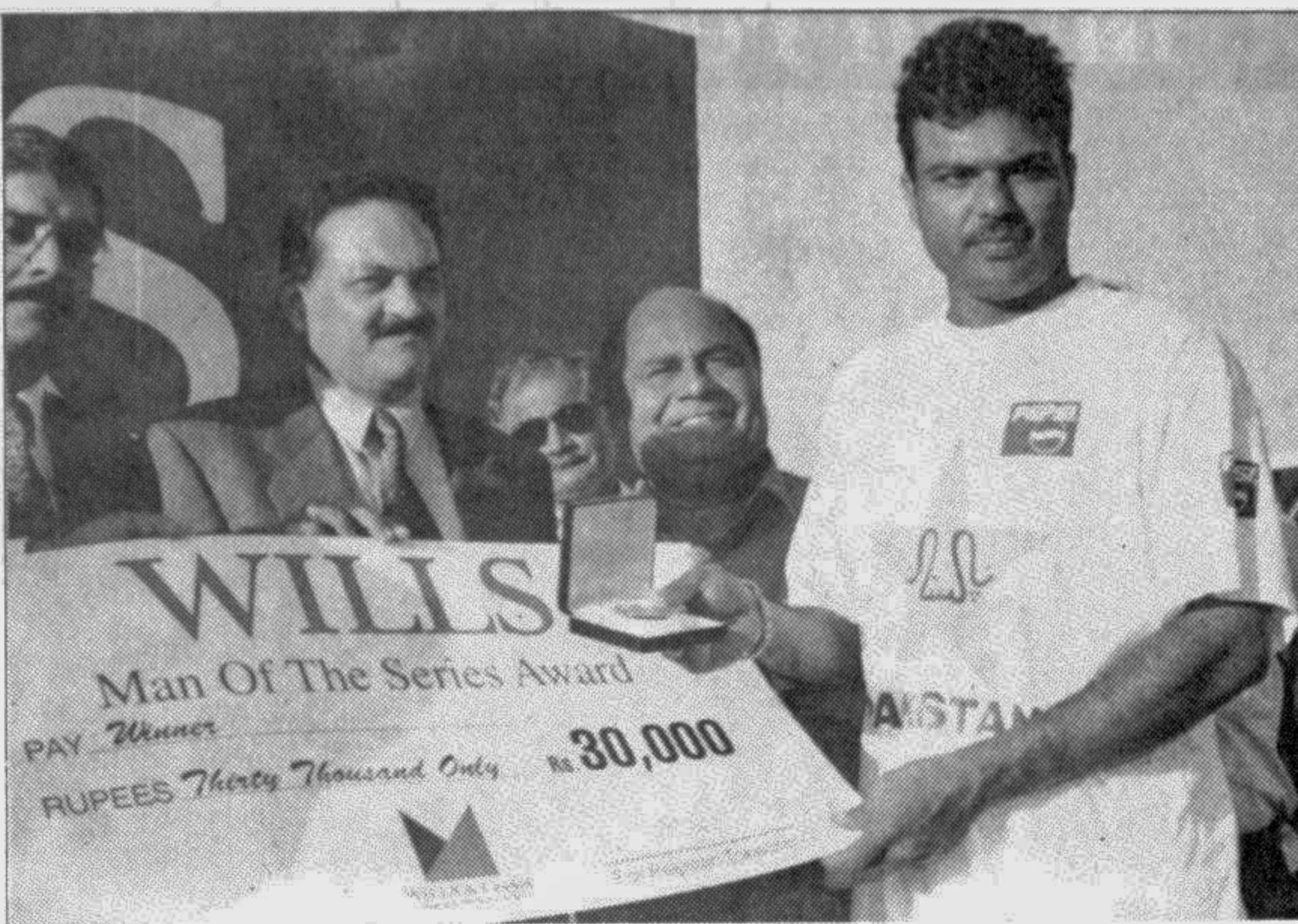
Despite the deaths, there have been no significant calls in Japan to ban boxing.

Katagiri was knocked down by Japan's No. 9 super bantamweight contender, Fusaaki Takenaga, in the ninth round of a scheduled 10-round bout at Tokyo's Korakuen boxing hall on Oct 12.

He stood up and tried to fight, but the 24-year-old Takenaga punished him with a series of blows to the face. Katagiri went down again and fell into a coma.

He was taken to a hospital in downtown Tokyo and underwent brain surgery.

Katagiri became a pro boxer in January 1991 and had a record of five victories, six defeats and two draws.



Ijaz Ahmed of Pakistan receives the player-of-the-series cheque. —AFP photo

**Perseverance the cure**



MILAN, Oct 27 (AFP): Once called the "Phenomenon" by an adoring Italian press but now known as the "Ghost of Turin", Ronaldo is Inter Milan's only hope of banishing the spectre of defeat to Juventus.

Inter's weaknesses were cruelly exposed in Turin last weekend — the lack of determination or a coherent system of play having already emerged in previous setbacks against Lazio and Real Madrid.

Ronaldo, still recovering from the trauma of the World Cup final, the subsequent six-week rest and the knee injuries which followed, was left to wander around the Juventus area like a lost soul.

By contrast, World Cup flop Alessandro Del Piero proved that his five month spell in the doldrums is over by scoring Juventus' winner and creating constant havoc in the Inter defence.

Inter coach Gigi Simoni said: "There's no doubt that Ronaldo has a few problems, but I am trying everything to bring him to his previous level."

"If Juventus waited for Del Piero, then we have to wait for Ronaldo."

"And he is only going to get that continuity back by playing. So even though I know Inter must always win and you are not supposed to wait for people to find their form, for Ronaldo we can do that."

"I hope to use him for at least half the game on Wednesday against Castel di Sangro in the Italian Cup."

Simoni and his men spent about 90 minutes at their training ground on Monday discussing what went wrong at the Delle Alpi Stadium on Sunday.

"Ronaldo also spoke and suggested a few solutions for the team," Simoni said. "He is willing to make sacrifices, as

that players aren't happy when they don't play, it was easier for me to pick up on that before."

"There's no opposition as such, but I'm worried about this tendency to let things slip. It could just be uncertainty. But because some of them don't have the security of knowing they will be picked, their concentration is poor."

"In future, I'll be issuing the team list a few days before the match, in the hope that it will motivate them."

"But whatever the remedy for Inter's rank and file, Simoni knows that the likes of Ronaldo and Roberto Baggio must overcome injury if the team are to make real progress in Italy or Europe."

"The first thing we have to do is get some of our key players back, and above all Ronaldo. Without him, the whole structure of the squad would have to be changed," he said.

"On top of that, we have to work hard on our physical condition. Juventus showed once again that you win matches with grit and determination. I'm not saying we have to copy Juventus, but they have been using those characteristics to win things for years."

Simoni's own position has been in doubt recently and the coach, though popular, knows that he must now satisfy a demanding club president and public.

"The important thing now is to respond vigorously," he said. "And quickly."

are all the others, to move more and offer more possibilities to the man with the ball."

The Inter coach also admitted there is discontent, though not mutiny, in the ranks of such a large squad.

"The group is united, but I don't deny there are few more difficulties than last season, there were fewer of us," he said.

"There are a lot of people here now and although I know

seven minutes when German international Ulf Kirsten converted a penalty, awarded for handling the ball.

Harald Cerny set up Bernd Hobsch for a late equaliser to rescue a point.

The race for the French title is a clear two-horse race with Bordeaux getting their noses back in front Sunday after two goals from Lilian Laslandes saw off promoted Nancy 2-0.

Marseille had briefly taken over as leaders after crushing struggling Sochaux 4-0 at the Stade Velodrome on Saturday with two goals each for Italian striker Fabrizio Ravanelli and Titi Camara.

But Laslandes ensured that the joy of the 1993 European Cup champions was short-lived by heading Bordeaux into a 26th-minute lead and then driving home a right-foot shot for the second goal right at the death to restore a one-point lead after ten matches.

It was Bordeaux's sixth straight home win at their Parc Lescure.

In Sunday's other game, reigning champions Lens slumped 1-0 at Montpellier, Maouida scoring in the 57th minute to leave Lens struggling in 11th place after just three wins.

Metz bagged their first win of the campaign, beating Monaco 1-0 with a first-half Bruno Rodriguez penalty.

That allowed Rennes to leapfrog Monaco by defeating Lorient 1-0. Burundi striker Shabani Nonda on target in the first half. Auxerre beat Lyon 1-0 to climb to fourth with Steve Marlet scoring.

Paris Saint Germain, who had Francis Llacer sent off for a second yellow card, are still stuck in mid-table despite hiring Portuguese coach Artur Jorge after a goalless draw in Nantes.

Defeat dropped Kaiserslautern three places to 10th and they are not expecting a recovery until they get injured stars Olaf Marschall, Ratinho, Michael Schjoeberg, Martin Wagner and Andreas Buch back from injury.

Bayern now lead the table with 25 points, five ahead of city rivals 1860 Munich, who drew 1-1 against Leverkusen on Sunday.

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**Matthaeus fined**

MUNICH, Oct 27: German soccer legend Lothar Matthaeus has been fined 6,000 dollars by his club Bayern Munich after going skiing despite being supposedly injured, reports AFP.

The Kicker sports magazine said the 37-year-old former German captain had taken to the slopes as part of a television promotion although he is betting to get over a three-week thigh strain.

Kicker said Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld had been furious with Matthaeus, who has won a record 129 German caps.

"That's not professional behaviour. I don't allow that sort of thing," he stormed.

Matthaeus is the third Bayern player to be fined recently. Stefan Effenberg was punished by the club after being arrested for drink driving and Mario Basler was also fined after being spotted at a disco while injured.

**Betis turn to Clemente**

SEVILLE, Spain, Oct 27: Former Spanish national coach Javier Clemente will take over at struggling First Division Real Betis, club president Manuel Ruiz de Lopera said today, reports Reuters.

Clemente resigned last month after six years in charge of Spain after a disappointing World Cup. Spain failed to qualify for the second round and then lost a Euro 2000 qualifying match 3-2 to Cyprus.

He becomes Betis' fourth coach since the end of last season after Vicente Cantatore resigned on Monday.

The Seville club lie at the bottom of the Spanish First Division, with only one win and four goals after seven matches, but are still in the UEFA Cup.

**Arena new US soccer coach?**

NEW YORK, Oct 27: US media reports Monday said that American Bruce Arena, coach of two-time Major League Soccer champions DC United, will be named coach of the United States team here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Arena has for months been considered front-runner for the job of replacing Steve Sampson, who quit after the US team went winless and finished last among finalists at the World Cup this year in France.

Arena's United lost 2-0 to Chicago on Sunday in the MLS championship game, hurt by two controversial calls.

US soccer has scheduled a news conference here Tuesday afternoon at which Arena's appointment is expected to be made official in a deal reported to be worth two million dollars over four years.

The US team has a friendly against Australia set in San Jose on November 6 while United is set to face Brazil's Vasco da Gama in the Inter American Cup on November 14 in Washington and December 5 in Miami.

Arena might be in a position to coach the US team and United through those matches until he takes over solely as US coach.

Arena, 47, is expected to bring a new spark to the programme as he prepares for 2002 World Cup qualifying after his successful MLS turn and five earlier US collegiate titles as coach at the University of Virginia.

The next major international test for the US team will be in January's FIFA Confederations Cup in Mexico.

**Brooking stands by Asians**

LONDON, Oct 27: Former England midfielder Trevor Brooking on Monday threw his support behind attempts to increase the number of footballers of Asian origin in England's professional leagues, reports AFP.

"There are lots of talented young Asian footballers out there," said the ex-West Ham star who now works as a pundit for the BBC.

"The problem is they tend to play in their own leagues. We need to bring them into the professional clubs."

Brooking is the acting chairman of the English Sports Shabani Nonda on target in the first half. Auxerre beat Lyon 1-0 to climb to fourth with Steve Marlet scoring.

Paris Saint Germain, who had Francis Llacer sent off for a second yellow card, are still stuck in mid-table despite hiring Portuguese coach Artur Jorge after a goalless draw in Nantes.

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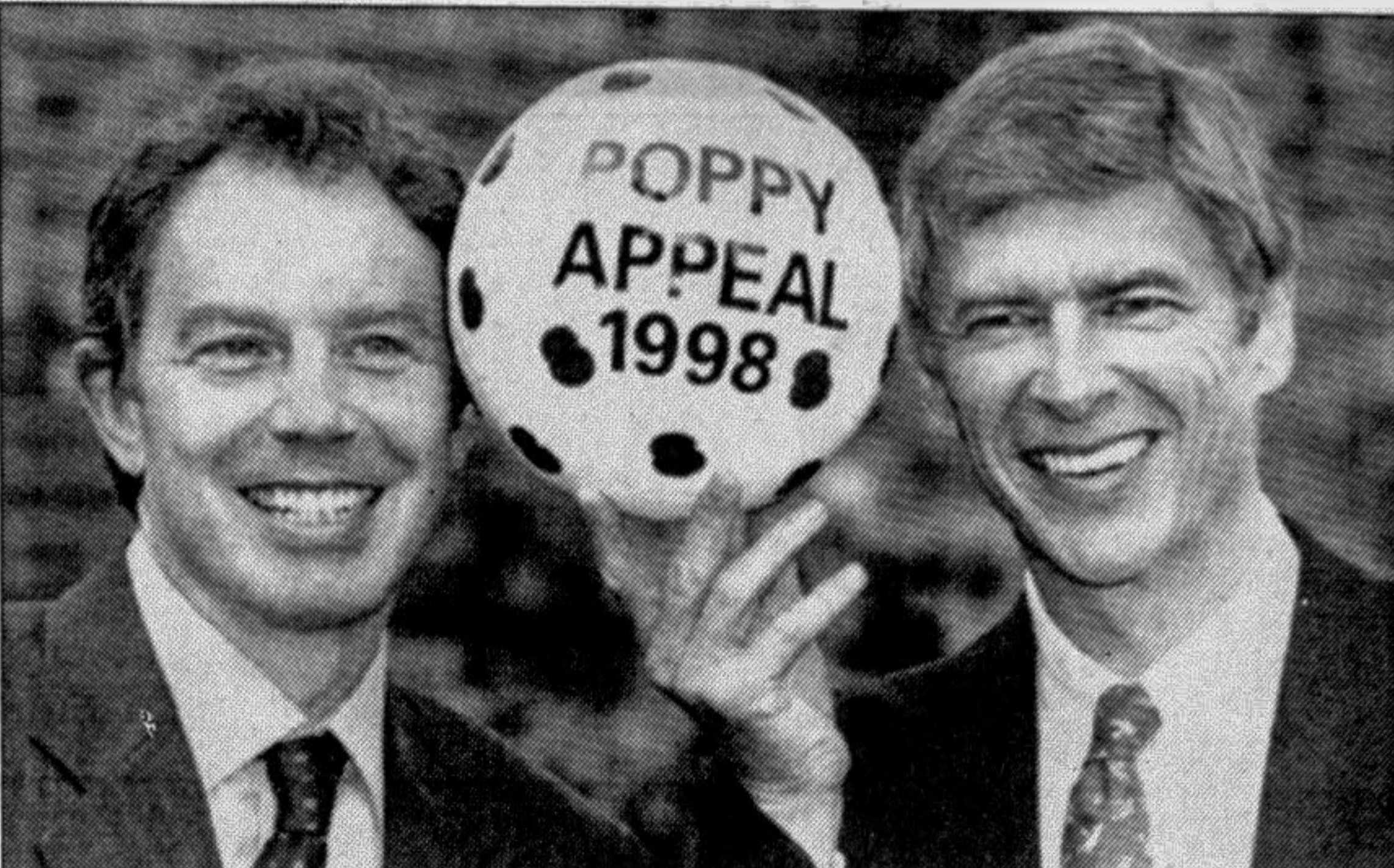
**Asian U-19 soccer**

CHIANG MAI, Thailand, Oct 27 (AFP): Under-19 Asian youth football champion results Monday:

**Group B**  
Iraq 3 (Abdul Ameer Lathif, 22, Abbas Zayer, 32, Amar Abbas, 45)  
China 2 (Li Yan, 4, Li Yi, 58)  
South Korea 2 (Kim Eun Jung, 3, Lee Dong Gook, 22)  
Japan 1 (Shinji Ono 42)

Group B standings played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, point)  
South Korea 4 3 1 0 8 3 10  
Japan 4 2 1 1 13 6 7  
China 4 1 1 2 7 8 4  
Qatar 4 1 1 2 2 6 4  
Iraq 4 1 0 3 6 13 3

Semifinals will be played on Thursday October 29.  
Saudi Arabia will meet Japan and Kazakhstan will meet South Korea.



British Prime Minister Tony Blair (L) is joined by Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger at the 1998 Poppy Appeal's launching ceremony at 10 Downing Street on October 26. Wenger presented the Prime Minister with the Poppy Appeal football on behalf of the Premier and League soccer clubs which are working with Royal British Legion to raise funds for survivors and relatives from Britain's military conflicts. —AP/UNB photo

**Africa Blatter's choice**



LONDON, Oct 27: FIFA president Sepp Blatter dealt a blow to England's chances of staging the 2006 World Cup on Monday when he emerged from a meeting with British Prime Minister Tony Blair to say it would be "logical" for the tournament to be held in Africa, reports AFP.

Blatter said after a 45-minute meeting with Blair and Sports Minister Tony Banks that he was looking for an African country to fulfil the criteria for staging the event.

Banks immediately shrugged off the comments, saying England was ready to hold the tournament and only waited the completion of the new national stadium at Wembley to finalise preparations.

Bidding for the 2006 World Cup opens next month with England and South Africa thought by British officials to be the front-runners.

But Blatter underlined that he was expecting a host of proposals from other countries including Germany, Egypt and Nigeria.

Speaking outside 10 Downing Street, Blatter, who was elected FIFA president in June, said he had merely reiterated the position he outlined this summer in which he favoured an African host for the event in eight years.

He said: "I have just formally, with the Prime Minister, said that I have not changed my attitude which I had when campaigning for the presidency."

"I repeated that if an African National Association, together with the country itself and the help of the whole population, were to meet conditions for

stadia, transport, security and so on...then in the logical approach the World Cup 2006 should go to an African country."

England, which staged the 1996 European championship, last hosted the World Cup in 1966. No country from Africa has yet hosted a World Cup finals tournament.

Blatter's election as head of football's world governing body had been seen as a boost for the English bid as his main rival for the job, Swede Lennart Johansson, had backed Germany.

But shortly after his appointment Blatter made clear his position that he would like to see an African host for the World Cup after the tournament is hosted by Japan and South Korea in 2002.

With this year's tournament being staged in Europe (France) and the previous event in the United States, Blatter says it is common sense for the African continent to hold the world's greatest sporting event.

Banks said he believed England was now in a two-horse race to host the 2006 tournament.

He said: "I believe it is now between us and South Africa."

Speaking to reporters in Downing Street, Banks added: "Basically we are ready for 2006. All we need now is for the redevelopment of Wembley to get underway."

"But I would like to add our rivalry with South Africa is of the friendliest nature...if they are successful then we will offer whatever assistance and professional advice necessary."

After his meeting with Blair, Blatter went to attend a reception at the foreign office where he was due to meet England's

1966 World Cup winners Sir Bobby Charlton, Sir Geoff Hurst and Gordon Banks as well as soccer legend Sir Stanley Matthews.

FIFA's 24-man executive committee will announce the successful bidder in March 2000 with the deadline for proposals coming in February 1999.

**Barca given green signal**

BARCELONA, Oct 27: Barcelona's 16-year-old Nigerian Hauruna Babangida could have an early chance to impress in the professional ranks following a ruling by the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF), reports Reuters.

The RFEF announced on Monday that the Catalan club will be allowed to add another player to their squad list as a replacement for the injured Sergio Garcia.

And that means Babangida, who turned 16 only at the start of October and was therefore not included in the original list, will now be eligible to play for the club's "B" team in the Spanish Second Division.

Hauruna, the younger brother of Ajax Amsterdam and Nigerian international striker Tijani Babangida, was relieved to get the green light for his professional career to start.

However, Babangida's division two debut will be delayed by two weeks because of an injury picked up in an under-20 international against Tanzania earlier this month.

"It's definitely a shame," he said. "But when I do get the chance I'll try to help the team in any way I can."

The Daily Star - Standard Chartered

**CRICKET QUIZ '98**

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Dhaka-Kathmandu-Dhaka air tickets for two (1st prize)  
Dhaka-Calcutta-Dhaka air tickets for two (2nd prize)  
Dinner at Sonargaon Hotel for two (3rd prize)

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**HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

- Only the residents of Bangladesh are eligible to participate in The Daily Star - Standard Chartered Cricket Quiz '98. The employees of Standard Chartered Bank, The Daily Star and their respective advertisement agencies shall not be eligible for the contest.
- All entries must be submitted in the original form printed in The Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.
- Entry forms have to be cut along the dotted lines.
- Participants will put a tick (✓) mark in the box alongside their chosen answer to each question.
- A participant may send more than one entry.
- Entry forms should be completed with a ballpoint pen.
- Name, address, father's name and other particulars of participants must be clearly written. Each entry form must also bear the signature of the participant and date.
- Incomplete entry forms will not be accepted.
- Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Cricket Quiz '98" along with the Round number.
- Entries may be hand-delivered or posted to The Daily Star, House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205.
- Entries will be placed in a sealed box for the draw to be held on the notified date in presence of invited guests and quiz participants, if any.
- Winners will be decided on the basis of the correct entries drawn out from the box.
- By entering the quiz contest, each participant will agree to be bound by the rules and guidelines which may be issued by the Standard Chartered Bank and The Daily Star.
- Any decision of the Standard Chartered and The Daily Star in the conduct of the quiz contest including the answers selected as correct shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner.
- Standard Chartered Bank and The Daily Star, in their absolute discretion, reserve the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of the quiz contest under any circumstances.

**FIXTURE OF THE ROUND**

ROUND	STARTS	ENDS	ANSWERS MUST REACH BY	LUCKY DRAW FOR PRIZES
QUIZ 2	23 Oct '98	29 Oct '98	29 Oct '98	5 Nov '98

The Daily Star - Standard Chartered Cricket Quiz '98 Round Two Ends Oct 29, '98

Tick (✓) the correct answers

1. Brian Lara hails from	Trinidad & Tobago <input type="radio"/>	Barbados <input type="radio"/>	Jamaica <input type="radio"/>
2. Bangladesh played their last ODI against	Kenya <input type="radio"/>	Sri Lanka <input type="radio"/>	India <input type="radio"/>
3. Overs per side in the 1975 World Cup was	50 <input type="radio"/>	55 <input type="radio"/>	60 <input type="radio"/>
4. Pakistan beat England in 1992 WC final by	22 runs <input type="radio"/>	2 wickets <input type="radio"/>	14 runs <input type="radio"/>
5. In which year did S Africa attain Test status?	1926 <input type="radio"/>	1928 <input type="radio"/>	1954 <input type="radio"/>

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) ..... Age .....  
Father's Name ..... Occupation .....  
Address .....  
Telephone (if any) ..... Signature ..... Date .....

Write with a ballpoint pen in clear BLOCK letters.  
Cut along the dotted line and mail to OR drop in the Quiz Box at The Daily Star.



Pakistan cricketers resting after some practice at the Bangabandhu Stadium last night. —Star photo