

Sport

2006 World Cup SA dismisses joint bid

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 25: The head of South Africa's bid for the 2006 World Cup...

"My own view is that it is nonsense. I can't even consider it - there is no way it can happen..."

The Animal & the circus

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 25: Brazilian striker Edmundo celebrated his son's first birthday by holding a circus...

"As a father, I may have left a lot to be desired as I have been away from home too much..."

Edmundo returned to Vasco in July after 18 months with Italy's Fiorentina...

Both players have been injured recently but McCarthy is hoping the two key players will inspire his team...

McCarthy backs Keane, Irwin

DUBLIN, Sept 25: Republic of Ireland coach Mick McCarthy named Manchester United duo Roy Keane and Denis Irwin...

Should Yugoslavia fail to win their Balkan grudge match with Croatia in Zagreb...

Evergreen striker Tony Cascarino, who plays for French first division side Nancy...

SQUAD GOALKEEPERS: Alan Kelly, Dean Kiely. DEFENDERS: Denis Irwin, Stephen Carr, Jeff Kenna...

Daivids to undergo eye surgery

TURIN, Italy, Sept 25: Dutch international Edgar Daivids is to undergo eye surgery for glaucoma...



Hamburg's Iranian international Mehdi Mahdaviaik (L) is challenged by a VFL Wolfsburg player during their Bundesliga encounter on September 24.

Bundesliga

Stuttgart end Bayern's run



MUNICH, Sept 25: Seventy two hours after scrambling for a last minute draw against Glasgow Rangers in the European Champions' League...



Stuttgart's Pablo Thiam (L) goes past Bayern Munich's Steffen Effenberg.

of shots on goal and hit the crossbar twice - they deserved to win and we have to accept that...

Strikingly Balakow's penalty was Stuttgart's first away goal this season and the win their first away points.

The last time Bayern lost at home was in February 1998 (33 matches ago) at the hands of FC Cologne...

Table with columns for team, played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against.

Ajax atop

AMSTERDAM, Sept 25: Ajax Amsterdam came from behind to beat Vitesse Arnhem 3-1 and go top of the Dutch First Division...

Defending champions Feyenoord, who play RKC Waalwijk on Sunday, are second with 13 points from five matches.

LEAGUE FIXTURES

Sunday Sparta Rotterdam v MVV Maastricht Cambuur Leeuwarden v AZ67 Alkmaar...

Pirates fight for survival

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 25: Leading South African club Orlando Pirates are facing a shock exit from the African Cup Winners' Cup quarter-finals in Guinea this weekend...

But hopes of defending the lead in Conakry have been dealt a series of blows with influential midfielder Thabo Mngomeni and strikers Phumlani Mkhize and Simon Makhubela ruled out by injuries.

Sangaredi are the first Guinean club to reach the quarter-finals since 1983 and defeated LPRC Oilers of Liberia 1-0 and Al-Shatte of Libya 3-0 at home in previous rounds.

Midfielder Alex Namazaba has been included in the Zambian squad after a lengthy absence due to an injury sustained in the first-round triumph over Saint Michel United from Seychelles.

Fixtures

At Tunis Club Africain (Tun) v PWR Dynamos (Zam) 1st leg: 1-0 At Conakry ASM Sangaredi (Gui) v Orlando Pirates (Rsa) 0-1

Dortmund fine Ikpeba

COLOGNE, Sept 25: German Bundesliga outfit Borussia Dortmund on Friday fined frustrated striker Victor Ikpeba 5,346 dollars after he accused the team of trying to ruin his career by keeping him on the bench...

Rangers riding high

GLASGOW, Sept 25: Scottish Premier League leaders Rangers tackle St Johnstone at Ibrox on Saturday in buoyant mood after restoring their European reputation in midweek...

"We have now shown with our win over Parma, who were the UEFA Cup winners last season, and the convincing draw against Munich who were just a couple of minutes away from picking up the Champions' Cup last May, that we are equal of the top European teams."

Aberdeen bid to score their first point of the season at Motherwell. The Dons have been boosted by the news that Slovak right-back Jozef Valachovic is expected to complete his move to Pittodrie in time for the match.

Dick Advocaat's side were unlucky not to collect all three points from their Champions' League clash with Bayern Munich on Tuesday, conceding a deflected equaliser in the final minute of the 1-1 draw.

Second-placed Celtic, three points behind Rangers, visit Hibernian who find themselves second bottom after a poor run.



Action from Arab Club Championship match between Olympic Baji and the Syrian Army in Cairo on September 24.

IOC shake-up nearing end

LONDON, Sept 25: The International Olympic Committee is entering the final stages of a reform process designed to reshape the organisation after its worst crisis, reports AP.

The executive's recommendations will be put to the full reform commission on October 30-31. They will then be submitted for a vote by the entire IOC at a special session in Lausanne on December 11-12.

Nearly 10 months after the IOC became engulfed in a vote-buying scandal that battered its image and credibility, a special panel meets this weekend to review proposed changes in the committee's structure, rules and procedures.

The weekend meetings come at a time when the IOC is facing fresh scrutiny amid allegations of vote-buying associated with Atlanta's winning bid for the 1996 Summer Games.

will take into account "the massive reform" which the organisation has embarked upon in recent months.

"I think we've implemented much more than the critics ever expected," executive board member Jacques Rogge said.

US Olympic Committee president Bill Hybl, a member of the IOC 2000 group, said, "The changes will be substantive, not cosmetic. The reforms are significant and, if implemented, will mean a new look encompassing the traditional values of the Olympic movement."

Based on numerous interviews with members of the panel, here is a look at some of the key proposals:

\* One of the most sensitive issues is the age limit. In 1995, the IOC voted to raise the limit from 75 to 80 in order to allow Samaranch to win another term in office.

The reform working group is proposing lowering the limit to 70, but apparently only for future members. Still unclear is what age limit will apply to current members and how it will be phased in.

\* The IOC president would be limited to a single, eight-year term. That would be a major change from the present system, under which Samaranch has been in office since 1980 and re-elected by acclamation three times.

\* Also represented on the IOC would be heads of 15 international sports federations and leaders of 15 national Olympic committees. They would lose their IOC membership once their administrative terms expired.

\* The IOC will have a maximum of 115 members once all the new rules are phased in. \* A large majority of IOC delegates (70) should be "independent members" chosen as individuals and not elected to represent constituent bodies.

\* On the Olympic site-selection process, a "bid acceptance procedure" would be introduced, requiring cities to meet certain technical criteria before being allowed to mount a bid.

Castle Cup Namibia face stiff task



LUANDA, Sept 25: Namibia will lack four foreign-based players when they meet Angola here on Sunday in the first leg of the Castle Cup Southern Africa championship final, reports AFP.

Goalkeeper Ronnie Kanalelo from South African champions Sundowns has been a key figure in the tense finishes, flinging his long frame in various directions to block spot kicks.

Goalkeeper Ronnie Kanalelo from South African champions Sundowns has been a key figure in the tense finishes, flinging his long frame in various directions to block spot kicks.

Huge striker Elphas Shivute from Chinese club Shengzen is another major influence among the Brave Warriors with his physique particularly effective in away matches as he can retain possession when heavily outnumbered.

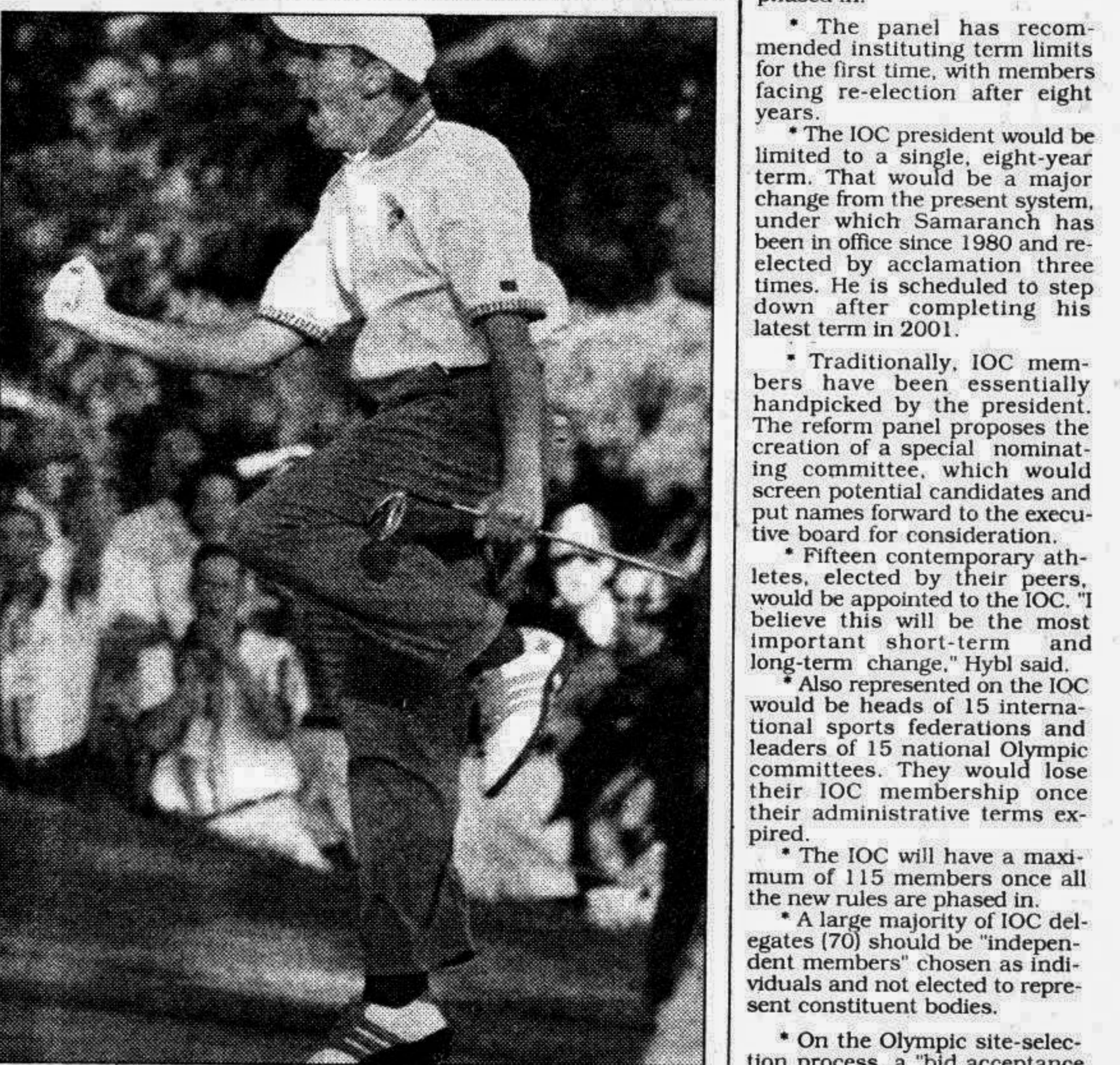
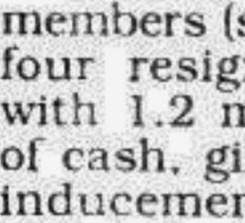
52-match unbeaten home record spanning 13 years. Coach Djalma Cavalcante this year inherited a team that had fared badly in 2000 African Nations Cup qualifiers with only one victory in six matches and a humiliating home loss to minnows Mauritius.

The Brazilian has adopted a different selection approach to his predecessors, using only local players instead of mixing them with Portuguese-based professionals.

Although Angola will lack long-serving defender Helder Vicente, who misses the first leg after being sent off in Zambia, they are expected to build a winning lead at the 60,000-seat Citadela Stadium.

FACTFILE

Results First round Lesotho 1 Namibia 0 Botswana 1 South Africa 2 Malawi 1 Angola 2 Swaziland 3 Mozambique 1 Losers play-offs Malawi 1 Namibia 1 (Namibia won 4-2 pen) Botswana 0 Mozambique 2 Quarter-finals Lesotho 0 Angola 1 Swaziland 1 Zimbabwe 1 (Swaziland won 4-3 pen) Namibia 1 South Africa 1 (Namibia won 4-1 pen) Zambia 1 Mozambique 1 (Zambia won 4-3 pen) Semifinals Zambia 0 Angola 1 Namibia 1 Swaziland 1 (Namibia won 4-2 pen) Leading scorers 2: Masina, Nkamabule (Swz), Ferreira (Ang), Ndlanya (Rsa) Man-of-the-match awards 2: Dube (Swz) 1: Kutoranda, Campos (Ang), Monteiro, Trigo (Moz), Kanalelo (Nam), Khoboli (Les), Manda (Maw), Mohlala (Rsa), Sichone (Zam), Tembo (Zim) Previous winners 1997, 1998 - Zambia



Rising golfer Sergio Garcia of Spain exults during his Ryder Cup match on September 24.